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RING

Molto Reverendo Signore.

La bontà di V. S. dimostrata a me per il tempo che stavo a Parigi, m'ha eccitato in questo tempo di lei scrivere. Ho ricevuto al principio di questo anno la sua Carissima lettera, piena di affetti di vera Amicizia. In quella lettera mi scrive di facermi conoscere di lei bisogno qualche cosa, ma per il presente almeno non voglio domandare di V. S. alcuna cosa terrena. Vendo mille grazie a V. S. per la sua bontà; se io avrò alcuno bisogno nel futuro certamente scriverò a V. S. La occasione di una Mutazione di Casa, mi ha presentato l'occasione di presentare i miei humilissimi Complimenti a Parigi per mezzo di una lettera. Non posso scrivere ancora in Francese, né meno in Italiano, ma non importa, perché parlo ad un amico. Si 23 di Nov nella mattina Sig. Limon mi disse di prepararsi per andare a Louisiana in tre o quattro giorni, ma nella sera ho ricevuto l'ordine di partire la mattina seguente. Sig. Limon disse che bisogna partire presto affinché il gelo non sarebbe impedimento per il viaggio. Il gelo comincia nel mese di Novem e dura quasi per tutto l'inverno, e perciò i vapori non possono montare più alto del Ohio fiume. Sig. Klabou, un studente di Monsig. Plaine un giovane della Louisiana ed io partemmo dal Seminario ai 24 di Novem e ai 3 di Dec siamo venuti a Donaldsonville, la Casa di Signor Bonille e Giustiniani ai 4 arrivammo al nuovo Seminario che s'edificava sul Bayou la grande Sig. Armand e gli altri sacerdoti e fratelli ci hanno ricevuto con ogni tenerezza.

Il Seminario non è ancora finito in tutto, ma in un mese dicono che il vescovo di Nuovo Orleans verrà per dare l'episcopale benedizione con tutta la Cerimonia. La direzione del Seminario, le persone che l'abiterranno promettono colla grazia di Dio, che questa Casa della Congregazione sarà eguale per l'estetica, ordine, Mipiani alla prima d'Europa. Intorno alla Missione Sig. Phandy che ne va in ogni parte, e i nuovi Spagnuoli cominciano il Ministero, predicano, catechizzano, battezzano. Ho cominciato di darli ~~la~~ ^{le} classe di Inglese per giorno, e tiramente ho grande speranza. Frat. Dominique dei Barri sarà presto un Americano. La distanza tra Barri e questo luogo è 1100 miglia sul la Mississippi. Di questi forse 700 ^{miglia} sono quasi abbandonate di ogni socorro spirituale della Chiesa, e parlarvi di tanto del interior.

Lig. Zabo era venuto al Seminario di Barnes molto tardi la sera prima della nostra partenza, che molto bisogno ancora in quella parte, si fa Missioni in ogni direzione e credo con molto frutto. Hanno edificato già una Chiesa di legno, e hanno avanti coll'altra di Matoni. A Barnes sono 70 Conversioni ^{incirca} alla nostra S. fede ogni anno, ed il numero delle Comunioni ogni domenica e festa, la spietatura alla chiesa i giorni più duri del inverno, la fede del popolo sono cose molto grato a Dio, ed un grand sollaggiamento ad un sacerdote. Al Capo Girardo la Chiesa è finita al esterno, sono adesso le cinque Religiose per insegnare le donzelle, e quattro sono mandate al Arkansaw. Lig. Simonen è di una grande perdita a molti piccole Congregazioni che di tempo in tempo lui visitava. Ho sentito dire che in poco tempo il Seminario vescovile di S. Luigi sarà aperto per i studenti, e che i Seminaristi di Barnes andranno alla Città. In questo caso la Casa di Barnes sarà per la Comunità.

Ho sentito che i Missionari sono domandati in molti luoghi per cominciare le funzioni del Instituto ma sono del loro numero i troppo pochi. La Carità del Nostro Padre, il Sig. Superiore Generale e dei nostri buoni Missionari è grande per inviare tanti bravi soggetti questo anno, ma non basta ancora. In poco tempo apprenderanno l'Inglese, e saranno meriti di salute e benedizione in questo paese abbandonato di ogni soccorso spirituale. Spero che i nostri di Italia apriranno il loro Cuore di più in più per questo paese, ad imitazione della Carità grande di S. Vincenzo Ven. detto, che sarebbe contento che la sua Congregazione sarebbe distrutta per la Carità. Ma Signor Mio non sarà distrutta, anzi sarà da Dio benedetta, accresciuta senza fine per la sua gloria, e per la santificazione delle anime. Mille ancora sono i bisogni nei luoghi ove si trova Sign. Padre e Sig. Periodi, il domanda aperto ma io credo non che persone al Seminario per adesso. Mille ancora i bisogni in Arkansaw, tra i selvaggi, in Tekes Ved. &c. Nel anno venturo bisogna mandare d'Europa molto più in questa parte. Iddio li providerà!! Signor Mio perdona la libertà ~~del~~ ^{di} ~~solenni~~ ^{con} tanta arditezza, e con la miserabile italiana.

V. S. M. R. avrà la bontà di dare i miei umilissimi rispetti al nostro onorato Padre il Signor Superiore Generale, al Signor Etienne, al Superiore di Casa, al Sig. Leggo a tutti i sacerdoti, e studenti. Ancora lo prego i seminaristi di prendere coraggio, e lo spirito di S. Vincenzo per venire in questo paese abbandonato. Lo stipe per gli Amici di Italia. Sono bene per la grazia di Dio, e questo è lo secondo Anno di Theologia. I miei Superiori penseranno come sarà impiegato finisque al arrivo dei Seminaristi di Lyons. Sono qui adesso tre studenti, uno ha fatto la Theologia le altre apprendono la Filosofia.

Begando mille benedizioni sul V. S. M. R.

Sono Leggo con ogni sentimento d'umiltà
l'umilissimo servo di V. S. M. R.
P. J. Ring. I. C. C. M.

Extrait d'une lettre de Monsieur Bing, Missionnaire dans
l'Amérique à Monsieur

Séminaire Assomption Beau la Poudre
17 février 1879.

Monsieur

J'ai reçu au commencement de l'an la lettre, dans laquelle vous me témoignez
votre amitié, et je vous prie de vouloir bien accepter mes remerciements car j'en rap-
pelle encore toutes les marques d'affection, que vous me donniez, pendant que j'étais à
Paris; je n'ai pas aucun besoin matériel pour le moment, mais à l'avenir dans le cas
de nécessité je profiterai de vos offrandes.

Je reçus le 23 Novembre au soir je reçus l'avis de Monsieur Simon notre Vicaire
de me tenir prêt à partir de Barrons, où je me trouvais, pour la Louisiane et
il fallait le faire tout de suite autrement la gelée me l'aurait empêché; ^{parce que} ~~puisque~~
~~pour cette cause~~ ~~pendant tout l'hiver il est~~ impossible aux Catteaux de monter en haut de la rivière Ohio, qui est toute gelée.
Je partis donc le 24 Novembre avec deux autres compagnons, et le 4 Xbre nous sommes
arrivés au nouveau Séminaire de l'Assomption ou de l'Ascension. Monsieur Armangol
et les autres Prêtres nous ont donnés toutes les marques de tendresse. Le Séminai-
re n'est pas encore fini, mais dans un mois, m'ont dit, que Monseigneur l'Evêque de
la Nouvelle-Orléans ^{lui} viendra pour donner sa bénédiction épiscopale avec toute solen-
nité. Il est à espérer, que avec la grâce du bon Dieu, et moyennant la sage direction du
même, et le bon esprit de tous ceux qui y demeureront, cette Maison de la Congrégation se-
ra en tout semblable aux autres de l'Europe pour l'exacitude ~~des~~ ^{de} l'observance des
régles. Pour ce que regarde la Mission, Monsieur Ghander va de tout côté pour tra-
vailler, et les Confrères Espagnols, qui nous sont arrivés de nouveau, ont commencé
déjà exercer le saint ministère, ils prêchent, catéchisent, baptisent, et ^{ai} commen-
cé à leur faire quelque classe par jour d'Anglais, ayant grande espérance, qu'ils
l'apprendront ~~très~~ bientôt.

Les besoins spirituels sont immenses, Monsieur. La distance de Barrons ~~est~~ jusqu'ici
est de 1100. mille sur le Mississipi, et cependant 700. mille environ sur cette rivière
sont presque privés de tout secours spirituel, pour rien vous dire de l'intérieur du pays.
J'entends dire, que nos Confrères ont été demandés en plusieurs endroits pour y travailler
selon notre Institut, mais, hélas! leur nombre est bien petit. La charité du Notre-Dame

notre Père, et des autres Messieurs a été bien grande pour nous avoir envoyés
 dans cette année, tant et si bon Missionnaire, ^{seront en peu de temps} ils approcheront en peu de
 temps des moyennes de bénédiction en ce pays. Mais cela ne suffit pas, et j'espère
 re, que nos Confrères d'Italie ouvriront de plus en plus leur cœur à la compassion
 pour cette Mission, et imiteront la immense charité de St Vincent, qui auroit
 été content de voir sa Congrégation détruite par la charité. Elle néanmoins, mon
 cher Monsieur, ne sera pas détruite pour cela, mais au contraire elle sera bénite
 par le Seigneur, et augmentée de plus en plus pour sa gloire et pour la sanctifi-
 cation des âmes.

Que de besoin dans les lieux où se trouvent Messieurs Ocho et Parodi! ils deman-
 dent du secours, mais je crois, ^{maintenant} que il n'y a pas personne maintenant au séminaire,
 que puisse y aller. Que de besoin dans l'Arkansas! Parmi les sauvages! Dans le
 Texas! Et Et Et dans l'approchain donc il ~~est~~ faudra nous envoyer d'Europe
 des ouvriers évangéliques en plus grand nombre, qu'auparavant. Dieu le fasse!
 Je vous prie de vouloir présenter mes hommages respectueux à Monsieur le
 Supérieur Général, et de faire mes complimens à Messieurs Etienne, le So,
~~le Supérieur~~ l'Espritant de la maison, à tous ces Messieurs et aux étudiants. Je
~~vous~~ prie encore ~~de~~ Messieurs le Séminaristes de Paris de prendre courage
 et de se remplir de l'esprit de St Vincent pour voler en notre secours.
 Je fais à présent le second an de Théologie, et avec moi ^{sont} trois autres étudiants,
 des quels l'un a fini son cours et les autres approchent la Philosophie.

Je suis avec tout le respect

Monsieur

Molta Carta Lig.^a e Chispi: Padre.

Seminario Assunzione
2 Nov. 1839.

La tua cara lettera di Maggio ricevuto li 16
di Ottobre. Veramente questa lettera, e l'oratio principalmente mi ha
attornito stranamente. Il Cuore paterno mostrato la, mi fa vedere
da più in più lo spirito generoso che per la misericordia di Dio, regna
negli affetti dei figli di S. Vincenzo. Oh Congregazione Santa, e bene-
dita da Dio, cepera solamente quando perdera lo spirito del Santo
Fondatore? E che grazia tendere a poveri meschini per tanta bontà?
Che dire? Signor mio non posso dire niente, e traspas di tacere.
V. S. non ha bisogno dei miei ringraziamenti. Sta sicuro di l'occasione
di presentarsi, sarà di me, eseguito. Ma al presente non posso domandare
ricordi, e prevalerami della sua grand' generosità per motivo dei Circostanzi.
Vorrei bene scrivere a V. S. M. R. una lettera piena di consolazione, ma
l'ha fatta la volontà di Dio. — L'anno passato spesso era malato,
il freddo di Missouri, e la mia Negligenza hanno causato la debolezza del
pettorale. Ma questo Anno sono stato infermo quasi sempre. E del resto
di S. Vincenzo sono divenuto inutile ad ogni Cosa. Non è necessario di
spiegare la Circostanza. In una parola ho timore che per i miei difetti
che il buon Dio non vole servirsi dei miei servizii in questo paese almeno
per la sua gloria. La Malattia sembra infiammatoria, il Corpo, sangue e
molto caldo. Ho scritto a S. Vinon, spiegando tutto con semplicità e sub-
missione, e non ho ricevuto ancora la Sua decisione. Già lui ora espat-
tato qui, ma non viene ancora per molto tempo. — Io sono nelle mani
di Dio, l'autore della vita e della morte. "Non sicut ego volo, sed sicut tu"

Riviera. Con sincera umiltà, e con ogni affetto l'onoratissimo Padre, il Sig.
Superiore Generale. E dona i miei saluti rispettuosi ai Signori Etienne, Leger,
Bladet & ho duri scrivere a L. S. M. R. una lunga, ed interessante lettera,
ma la materia, come la Sanità mi manca. Tutto che io conosco in questo
momento è; che i Signori Raho, e Parodi fanno de' meravigli nella loro
missione. 40 persone adulte colà hanno ricevuto la Cresima. e adesso due
altri missionari con i Signori (come io credo) sono in essi colà, coi Signori Escoffier
e Estany. Due Signori Giustiniani è in missione e sarà per molto tempo. e qui
come per tutto che molto di fare, operari autem pauci. Ho ricevuto adesso
adesso due lettere, una di L. Collins, e l'altra di L. Park. Hanno ricevuto
il sacerdozio in settembre, e tutti due stanno bene. Potrebbe altro dirvi, ma
di raccomandarmi al Signor e nei sentimenti d'amore e rispetto, mi
sono di L. S. M. R.

Umilissimo servitor

P. J. Ring. L. C. C. M.

RUBi

Carson City December the 18 1864

Very Rev dear confere

May the grace of God be with us for ever

Though I do not believe that it is my business to write to you about our affairs as long as father Brewster is able to do so and I keep him well posted on every thing I do, yet as he has never been able to leave S^o Francisco except on a little trip, nor will he be ever able to do it, for he is now, not walking, but running towards the grave if the sister tell me the truth, I think that a few lines from the ballistics, though not official, will be well received at head-quarters, even if I should tell you something that you are already aware of

I came to this of Carson on the twentieth of August after I received from the bishop a written promise that we would keep the place as long as we would be able to do so. I found nothing except a piece of ground which had been donated to the bishop two or three years before, and a great deal of antagonism from the part of the catholics who about five months before had been abused or cheated by a priest who went there to build a church and after collecting about nineteen hundred dollars left them, this has proved as the bishop told me before would cause us some trouble but I told me also that some community alone would change the feelings of the people and that some Carson was destined to be a great place for us being in a beautiful location and the capital of the new state. I thought that the best thing for us would be, as the other had collected without building, to build without collecting, and at once put up a shanty in which I said mass every sunday and some two or three times every week. I as you may believe have had a great deal of suffering passing many a day without being able to buy a pound of meat and obliged to live on potatoes and corn meal, however we have established ourselves with the help of God and now have together with the good will and sympathy of the people a hall sixty two feet by seven plastered and well finished forty of which we kept as a church and the rest is divided into three rooms we have besides that two other two rooms a storeroom and a kitchen and a large stable for a horse that

was given to me some time ago and now I am pulling up a good solid fence around the lot. it is not my intention to have even a single cent of debt however in this case I thought that it would even be prudent to act otherwise for I would have never got a cent had I not done so however our debts are not as large as one might suppose. I only owe now five hundred dollars and a few months more will make every thing even. Good F. Beakley came about a month after me and has been going since then twice a month to Engle a small town three miles from this and the other two Sundays to Alton and Ophir which are about sixteen miles from E. We opened also on the 1st of November a day school the advertisement of which I send you in this and also a night school for the young men who can not come during the day. This is only a little seed put in the ground which if well watered and properly cultivated now will in time become a very large tree under the shade of which the youth of this state will receive both social and religious education. water it then immediately if you can for it is already in danger of perishing; for we do really need some body here since father Smith cannot help us at all and J. B. though full of zeal can do very little having been spitting some blood lately.

I hope that you will not forget to send us some ^{books} as well as the other books that we need for the house and if any body comes they might if possible bring some stationery at least one shovell of each color for here every thing must be paid in gold and is very dear.

I got before leaving Havana about fifty dollars which I spent coming here if you want them for the fall I may send them there after a while.

I am glad to hear that father Inguet went to Paris I hope that he will not leave the congregation for I saw a letter sometime ago here which shows me that if he does it his chance to go to heaven is very poor let us pray for him. I finish wishing you and all the other confesors most cordially a happy Christmas and merry new year and requesting for me and company a share in your holy prayers during this holy season.

I have the honor to subscribe myself in union with the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary immaculate your humble servant and devoted confessor
O. P. S. U. N. J. N. U. C. M. M. ^{St. Louis} T. P. C. M.

RYAN, S. V.

Etats Unis M. Ryan

Collège S. Vincent, Cape Girardeau, Mo.
12 Février 1857.

Monsieur et très-honoré Père
Notre bénédiction si vous plaît.

Et avec votre bénédiction je demande très humblement pardon pour la bêtise que je prend en vous adressant ces quelques lignes. C'est avec une satisfaction sincère, que je me quitte d'un devoir, qu'il me semble ma position actuelle m'impose, de mettre sous vos yeux la condition où se trouve notre maison du Cap, Collège et communauté. L'année passée j'avais l'honneur de vous adresser une relation de l'état de notre établissement assez longue et détaillée, vous exposant en détail tout ce que j'étais, pourrais vous intéresser, ou éclaircir ^{sur} le vrai caractère d'une maison, regardée dans quelques quartiers, d'une utilité bien douteuse, et d'une existence précaire. J'espère que ma lettre vous est parvenue, et je me flatte que les sentiments y contenus, quoique pas exprimés dans la belle langue française, ni peut-être, écrits avec assez d'attention aux formalités du style épistolaire, étaient pourtant ceux d'un enfant dévoué et sincèrement attaché à la Compagnie, et j'aime à croire que votre cœur paternel les aurait appréciés. En doute si ma dernière vous a été jamais remise entre

les mains, et persuadé que notre très-honore Père ne peut
 pas être insensible à nos besoins, et à notre bien j'osaynai
 une seconde fois de vous donner un récit fidèle et exact
 de notre condition matérielle et spirituelle. Le nombre de
 notre Communauté monte à présent à vingt trois, c'est à dire
 sept Prêtres, trois Étudiants, un Séminariste, douze Thiers-
 coadjuteurs. Le nombre de Pensionnaires dans le Collège
 quatre-vingt et dix, et d'externes, dix-huit; le plus
 grand nombre que nous avons jamais eu au Cap. Nous
 avons outre cela six Séminaristes externes, qui appar-
 tiennent aux différents diocèses, et qui enseignent quelques
 classes dans le Collège et au même temps poursuivent leurs
 propres études ecclésiastiques. L'année passée, trois, élevés
 à cette manière chez nous ont été ordonnés Prêtres par
 Mons. Lymon pour son diocèse de Buffalo, et ils seront,
 j'en ai la confiance, missionnaires capables et zélés.
 Entre les sept Prêtres, que nous sommes, quatre sont occupés
 à enseigner dans le Collège. Rev. F. Lasco est chargé de
 la Paroisse et donne des leçons de Chant et Cérémonies
 aux Séminaristes, Rev. F. D. O'Keefe, Procureur de la maison,
 est souvent absent, et d'ailleurs après occuper par son office ne
 nous aide que très peu dans l'enseignement; Rev. P. Dauter
 ligne a une classe de Catéchisme tous les jours, il entend
 beaucoup de confessions et prêche en Français tous les quinze
 jours à l'église. Les autres sont engagés ordinairement quatre
 heures par jour dans divers devoirs collégiaux. Rev. J. Howard
 est professeur de les plus hautes branches de Mathématiques,
 il est notre principal, notre seul soutien dans ce département.

Il est capable et de bonne volonté, et son service est indispensable, le Collège ne pourrait pas s'en passer.

L'autant j'ai fait application aux Visiteurs de nous envoyer quelques uns de nos jeunes Confères pour faire un cours régulier et solide sous sa direction, et par là pourvoir à l'avenir, mais en vain, "Deus prodest" paraît être notre maxime dominante. Je pense. Mais mes instances auprès le concile provincial, mais avec le même succès. Rev. J. Slizni est Professeur de Théologie et se rend bien utile, enseignant plusieurs classes dans le Collège. Rev. J. H. M. Gerry, quoique âgé et pas si actif d'esprit ni de corps, qu'il a été, peut encore rendre service considérable dans plusieurs manières.

Nos jeunes Confères, Etudiants, avec une seule exception, ont été envoyés au Collège, parcequ'ils étaient d'aucune utilité ou de préjudice positif au Barrens. Ils font pourtant, au fait bien qu'on pourrait espérer, et nos Frères-Coadjuteurs nous donnent une satisfaction générale, ils semblent tous bien disposés, religieusement attachés à leur vocation, et quoique point parfaits, je ne puis pas me plaindre d'eux. Nous avons fait notre retraite annuelle quelques jours avant Noël, et j'étais charmé et édifié par la conduite exemplaire et l'esprit missionnaire qu'ils montraient. Entre nos Confères Etudiants, M. P. W. Menamy est le seul, qui j'ose recommander il a de l'esprit, s'applique bien, a des belles dispositions, il est un sujet de grande espérance, ~~de~~ regard aux autres je ne dirai que je me repose pas beaucoup de

confiance en eux, Mr. Thoma néanmoins est un Confère
 très édifiant et de bonne volonté de faire tout ce qu'il
 peut. Pour ce que regarde nos Pensionnaires, nous avons
 parmi eux de temps en temps des petites croix à souffrir et
 même difficultés un peu embarrassantes quelques fois, quoique
 rarement s'élèvent, mais pas plus nombreuses ni plus effrayantes
 qu'on rencontre dans d'autres collèges séculiers, et j'aime
 à croire qu'avec un peu de patience, de manière, un peu d'abnégation
 de soi-même et dévouement à l'œuvre le Collège pour-
 rait prospérer. Mais pour un succès plus complet, et de devel-
 oppement plus étendu de notre établissement nous avons abso-
 lument besoin de sujets vraiment dévoués à l'instruction de la
 jeunesse séculière, sujets ~~opposés~~ ^{opposés} qu'ils rendent service
 au bon Dieu et à la religion, et qu'ils remplissent la fin
 de leur vocation en travaillant dans un Collège séculier,
 et de sujets tellement disposés je n'ai encore vu que
 peu, très peu d'exemples. De plus, nous avons besoin des
 Professeurs instruits, capable d'enseigner et de gouverner
 la jeunesse, car la discipline, qui est ce qui ignore, est
 d'une importance souveraine dans un Collège. Or, sujets versés
 dans les sciences ou habitués à la discipline collégiale nous
 n'avons point, et je le répète, c'est impossible d'en avoir,
 si quelques uns, au moins, de nos jeunes Confères ne sont
 pas élevés dans et pour le Collège. Mais, n'imaginez pas, si
 nous plaît, respectable et très-honori Père, que je sois amoureux
 de cette vie au Collège, Dieu sait, que je préférerais, mille fois,
 aucune autre place, aucun autre emploi dans la Province
 plutôt de rester ici dans la place et dans l'emploi où je suis.

Mais si c'est la volonté de Dieu, que nous ayons la direction
 d'un Collège, tâchons au nom de Dieu de le tenir comme il
 faut, et pas dans une manière à surcharger, décamager, dégoûter
 les pauvres Conféres qui y travaillent, et à être pour les autres
 un objet de teneur mal cachée. Si je me trouve dans la nécessité
 désagréable de porter à la connaissance d'un Père commun une
 chose qui m'a beaucoup offligé. Mon frere, qui a eu l'hon-
 neur de passer quelque temps à la maison (Mère à Paris,
 et qui j'aurais établi Prefet de discipline depuis la rentrée
 des classes, s'en est allé au Barrens au commencement d'ee
 mois, Janvier sans ma permission et même à mon insu.

Vais-je l'affaire; le jour de l'an il s'est arrivé un petit
 dereglement entre quelques élèves, et deux se sont montrés
 même insolents envers lui, au lieu de les corriger
 comme ils le méritaient, il est venu me trouver, disant qu'il
 ne serait plus Prefet. Sur quoi je lui ai répondu
 brusquement, qu'il fasse comme il voudrait, je serais moi-
 même Prefet, et que je ne lui demandais aucun autre emploi
 dans la maison. Le lendemain il est parti laissant en sort
 pour raison de sa démarche; que je l'avais traité avec
 trop de severité. Il vient de retourner et apres avoir deman-
 dé pardon pour le scandale, que sa conduite pouvait donner
 il se montrait prêt à faire tout ce que je voudrais. Je l'apais
 se faite comme une faiblesse de caractère et nous raconte
 cette affaire principalement pour nous faire voir les petites
 difficultés que parfois nous rencontrons, et surtout pour nous

faire voir mon incapacité pour l'office de Supérieur.
 Je vous parle franchement, mon très-honorié Père, et dans
 la présence de Dieu, qui voit les sentiments de mon cœur
 je vous déclare avec toute sincérité que je ne me crois pas
 capable ni tout-à-fait digne d'être Supérieur d'une
 maison dans la Compagnie et à fortiori d'une Maison aussi
 nombreuse et considérable que la nôtre. Je n'ai pas la vertu,
 les connaissances ni l'expérience que demande une pareille
 charge, et j'en suis sûr, si vous me connaissiez, que vous ne
 me laisseriez point dans un poste aussi important et respon-
 sable. Je vous en conjure donc, Monsieur et très-honorié Père,
 placez moi sous un Supérieur où j'aurai l'occasion
 d'apprendre la vertu, les connaissances, et le véritable esprit
 de notre chère Congrégation, dont je sens grandement le besoin,
 et dont je suis singulièrement dépourvu, et par conséquent
 incapable d'en communiquer aux autres. Je suis prêt de
 partir aussitôt pour n'importe quel parti du monde,
 quelle province, ou quelle maison, vous voudriez m'assigner,
 ou enfin de rester où je suis, si c'est votre volonté quoiqu'il
 serait mon choix dernier. Maintenant pour ce qui regarde
 nos finances, nous sommes encore embarrassés par une dette
 pressante et quoique l'école est assez nombreuse la dette
 ne diminue point. Les dépenses se multiplient à mesure
 que les revenus s'augmentent, et comme je n'ai point d'expe-
 rience en les affaires temporelles, je me trouve dans un
 grand embarras à cause de nos dettes énormes, qu'il me semble
 ne peuvent pas être liquidées par les revenus ordinaires
 du Collège. Nous avons envoyé par M. Masson 722 piastres

(1822.) pour contribuer au monument de notre Saint Fondateur, cent francs la maison, et vingt deux contribués par des individus, une somme peu considérable, c'est vrai, mais je vous prie de croire que c'est le moyen le plus sûr que la volonté, qui nous manque. Du bien que nous faisons au Collège je n'aime pas parler et je ne suis pas capable d'en juger, mais je peux vous dire un compliment flatteur, que j'ai dernièrement reçu d'un ami. Il m'a écrit que notre cher et digne Confesseur M. Joly a opéré plus de bien dans sa mission à Rochester N.Y. que nous tous au Collège ne pourrions faire en sept ans. Quoi qu'il en soit, et quoiqu'il serait le comble de mon bonheur et de mes desirs, d'être comme lui engagé à l'œuvre de la mission, si le bon Dieu me jugeait digne d'y être appliqué, cependant nous tâchons de faire le mieux possible dans les circonstances où nous sommes placés. Dans la Paroisse nous avons été consolés par plusieurs conversions, et notre sainte Religion fait des progrès bien sensibles. Nous avons une très jolie petite église où il y a deux messes et sermon tous les dimanches, et comme nos élèves ne vont pas à l'église paroissiale nous sommes obligés d'avoir deux autres messes et une instruction particulière pour eux dans notre chapelle domestique. Entre les pensionnaires il y en a dix-neuf Protestants, qui assistent comme les Catholiques à tous les exercices religieux, prières, messes, instructions, et une classe de catéchisme tous les dimanches, et c'est presque impossible que tout cela ne fasse pas une impression, qui tôt ou tard produira des fruits les plus heureux. Quoique tous nos élèves ne sont pas instruits

dans la religion ni dans aucune manière disposés à la piété
 nous avons la consolation de trouver plusieurs exemples de
 régularité et sujets d'édification parmi eux. Nous avons établi
 parmi eux une Confraternité de la sainte Vierge, à laquelle presque
 tous les Catholiques appartiennent, et tous les associés sont
 assez réguliers à fréquenter les Sacraments. Pour dire la vérité
 il faut avouer, que il n'y a pas parmi nos Confères un bon
 Directeur spirituel, dont la prudence, sagesse, piété
 exerceraient une influence sainte et religieuse sur nos
 élèves, il n'y a personne qui à la manière ou qui se donne la
 peine de s'insérer dans leurs affections, de leur gagner la confiance
 afin de leur porter à la pratique de vertus. Un tel zélé, vertueux, prudent
 et capable Directeur pourrait faire des merveilles parmi eux. Le pauvre
 vieux M. Boutheligne, qui confesse la plus part est tout ce que vous voulez,
 mais il n'a pas, selon moi, les qualités essentielles au Directeur de la jeunesse.
 Pour moi, je les ai beaucoup moins, et entre cela, les relations, que j'ai avec eux
 comme Président et Préfet sont presque incompatibles avec celle de Confesseur et déjà
 mes occupations sont si nombreuses que c'est moralement impossible de les remplir toutes
 avec exactitude. Je ne le juge pas à prudent de rétablir mon Père dans l'office de Préfet
 et comme j'ai personne pour le remplacer, je suis obligé de me charger encore
 des devoirs de Préfet de Discipline, le suis le Confesseur ordinaire des Louers de
 Lorette et Directeur des filles par pension chez elles, Professeur de plusieurs classes
 au Collège et, pour vous dire tout, Procureur dans l'absence de M. O'Sheff, qui
 justement à présent va s'absenter pour trois mois collectant en la Louisiane.
 Vous conserverez donc M. et très honore Père, que si nous ne faisons pas beaucoup de
 bien, nous avons au moins essayé de faire, nous pourrions aussi de la consoler, que bien que
 le nombre des Confères employés au Collège parait assez grand, ceux dont on
 pourrait utiliser les services, sont peu. Encore, très honore Père, voudriez vous me
 permettre de vous dire quelques mots d'une autre chose, si dans la note si, si je ne
 me trompe pas, dans aucune maison dans notre pauvre Province, sont tous les officiers dont
 et on me répondit que c'était l'affaire des Supérieurs, je laisserais la chose alors,
 et je la laisse encore après nous avoir exprimé ma conviction que un grand bien
 en résulterait, si toutes les maisons de la Province étaient plus complètement
 organisées selon nos règles. Ici nous avons un Supérieur provisoire, un Procureur
 et des Consultants. Le Concile se tient toutes les semaines, et nous nous efforçons à
 suivre les recommandations, que notre très honore Père nous a fait dans sa lettre
 circulaire. Les conférences et répétitions de la prière sont bien régulières toutes les
 semaines, et en général je puis vous assurer nos règles sont bien observées, nos
 Confères sont bien disposés, fermement attachés à leur vocation, affectionnés au
 nous, Monsieur et très honore Père, qu'ils honorent comme dignes Directeur de
 notre P. Fondateur, et de leur part, en leur nom je prend la liberté de vous pre-
 senter les sentiments de respect le plus profond et de soumission la plus parfaite.
 Daignez donc m'excuser les fautes nombreuses dans ce mon premier essai en écrivant
 la langue française, et agréer l'expression de mes sentiments d'estime et de regard
 je suis et serai pour toujours votre indigne mais dévoué fils
 J. P. Ryan S.P.C.M.
 P.S. V. C. C.

Etats Unis M. Et. Ryan
Visiteur

College S. Vincent, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Sept. 30. 1857

Monsieur et très-honoré Père

Votre benediction m'est venue à l'esprit.

Après un délai assez long
je me trouve enfin en état de remplir un devoir bien
agréable à mon cœur, de m'entretenir avec un père cheri et
estimé et de confier avec lui sur les affaires de cette portion
de sa chère famille, qu'il a voulu confier à mes soins.
Je pourrai donc, très-honoré Père, vous informer de mon
avance heureuse et vous ^{donner} quelques nouvelles de notre Province
éloignée. Après avoir quitté vous et M. Salvayre le soir
du 27 juillet je rencontrai à l'embarcadere quelques Pères
et Séminaristes, qui, comme moi-même, attendaient le départ
des convois pour le Havre, tous destinés comme moi
pour la mission lointaine d'Amérique Septentrionale.
C'étaient des missionnaires, que Mons. Charbonnel envoyait
des évêchés divers de la France pour évangéliser les
Diocèses de Toronto, Hamilton, et London au Canada.
Arrivant au Havre je dirigeai mes pas tout de suite vers
la maison de nos bonnes Sœurs, où j'avais le bonheur
d'offrir le saint sacrifice de la Messe, pour implorer la
benediction du ciel sur le voyage que j'allais entreprendre.
Enfin, tout arrangé par ce bien bon Monsieur Hoësche
pour mon passage sur le "Hutton", un bateau Américain
je me suis embarqué pour Bristol et vers les deux heures

d'après midi 28 juillet on donnait le dernier soufflé, signal de départ et bientôt nous sommes en pleine mer chemin faisant vers le nouveau monde. Quoique le vent était presque tout le temps contraire, nous sommes arrivés à N.York le 10 août après une traversée assez agréable, ayant passé que treize jours sur la mer. A N.York je me suis reposé presque le lendemain chez un ancien élève du Barrens, maintenant Curé d'une paroisse de la ville, qui m'a reçu avec une honte extrême. J'en ai déjà fait plus que mille lieues et jusqu'à Cape Girardeau il y a encore 350 lieues à faire, mais comme il y a un chemin de fer jusqu'à St. Louis, une distance de trois cents lieues, je pourrai aisément m'y trouver pour le 15 de ce mois. Partant donc de la grande Métropole de N.York j'ai pris la route par Buffalo pour voir notre cher Confère M. Lynch. Ce bon Confère toujours complaisant et gélé donnait alors une retraite à quelque distance, mais informé par une dépêche télégraphique de mon arrivée, il s'est empressé de venir à ma rencontre. Avec lui je suis allé voir notre nouvel établissement à Niagara, qui loin de Buffalo huit lieues occupe une position magnifique, et j'ai la confiance que cette maison sous la direction d'un Confère aussi pieux qu'impé-
 gable ne tardera pas de devenir importante pour la religion et pour la compagnie. M. Lynch a avec lui trois Confères laborieux et exemplaires, dont deux élevés au Barrens étaient ordonnés Prêtres cette année-ci. Comme je n'avais pas beaucoup de temps à perdre, m'en alla

encore en route pour St. Louis, en jérine le quinze d'octobre.
 J'avais donc la douce consolation de célébrer la sainte
 messe dans notre belle église, et de passer la grande solen-
 nité de l'Assomption de la Vierge avec nos confrères de
 St. Louis. Mais, c'est Samedi et Lundi prochain aura lieu
 la rentrée de classes au Collège, cinquante lieues encore à
 faire avant d'arriver à ma destination, un bateau a vapour
 part le même soir, je m'y embarque, et lendemain, Dimanche
 le 16^{me} d'octobre, me voilà, heureusement grâce à Dieu
 à la terminaison de mon long voyage. Après la sainte
 messe j'embrassais bien tendrement nos chers confrères, qui
 tous savaient bien que les élèves contents de me voir de retour
 me donnaient preuves peu équivoques d'une affection sincère et
 cordiale. Arrivant en Amérique j'avais tout aux consultants
 de la Province de se trouver à St. Louis pour le 14^{me} Dimanche
 après Pentecôte, et ayant arrangé les classes et mis tout en
 train au Collège, je suis allé au Barrens, où on m'attendait
 avec empressement. C'est qu'en effet il ne faut pas se vanter
 que ma réception par Mr. Henry et les autres confrères dans
 cette maison chérie était la plus tendre et cordiale, non
 pas à cause de quelque considération personnelle, mais
 parcequ'ils m'ont reconnu comme envoyé par un Père
 profondément attaché et sincèrement aimé; ils m'ont reconnu
 comme vicaire accrédité par le Successeur de St. Vincent,
 et préposé, quoique bien insignifiant et misérable, à la Province
 où, par la disposition du Maître suprême, ils sont destinés
 à travailler. Pour votre consolation, mon très honoré Père,
 et pour vous donner une idée plus juste, peut-être, que vous

parlez au sujet de nos enfans américains, je vous dirai, que jusqu'ici je n'ai éprouvé la moindre contradiction, et j'ai été humilié et édifié par les bonnes dispositions, que j'ai trouvées parmi nos confères, un zèle ardent pour la gloire de Dieu et les intérêts de la Compagnie, une soumission parfaite, et une obéissance à se conformer à tout ce que l'obéissance prescrit. Il me semble que je suis le seul, dont les miseres multipliées peuvent nuire à l'œuvre de Dieu.

Je passais une semaine entière au Barrens pour examiner un peu l'état de la maison, et quoique je n'ai pas fait une visite en règle, j'ai pris des informations assez particulières sur le personnel et les affaires de cette maison centrale. Il y a 23 scholastiques, qui ont déjà fait les vœux, et 8 novices et tous montrent les meilleures dispositions, et nous inspirent des espérances bien consolantes pour l'avenir de notre Province. Malheureusement plusieurs de nos Etudiens sont peu avancés dans leurs études, à cause que nous sommes presque obligés de les admettre, quand ils sont que commençans. J'ai envoyé au ~~Barrens~~ trois, qui avaient complété leur Baccalauréat pour y continuer leurs études et profiter de les facilités que le Collège fournit de suivre un cours plus complet dans les départements mathématiques et scientifiques, connaissances bien nécessaires pour Professeurs dans nos Collèges et petits Séminaires.

Dans le petit Séminaire du Barrens il y a après pres 170 étudiants entre lesquels il y a plusieurs Postulants, et M. Lynch m'a dit qu'à Niagara il y a au moins huit ou neuf Postulants, et entre 30 et 40. étudiants externes.

Les Barrens je retournais à St. Louis où Mm. Burlando, Lynch et Rolando convenaient au jour désigné. Avec leur vicaire Rev. J. O'Reily, dernièrement changé par le Préféré, de Lasalle à St. Louis, était appelé au conseil, comme le quatrième Consultant et les suivantes étaient les affaires principales de nos délibérations et à présent je les soumets pour votre approbation.

Consulteurs, Rev. Mm. Burlando, François, Lynch Jean, Rolando Jacques, O'Reily Jean. Ils étaient tous de votre avis que le Préféré dussent faire sa demeure dans la maison des Novices, mais pour cette raison, au, au moins, qu'on pourrait trouver un Supérieur convenable pour la maison de Cap, ils pensaient que je devais rester au collège, et plutôt offrir comme possible le Barrens. Par conséquent ils ne voulaient pas désigner un Supérieur pour le Barrens, laissant M. Huesy comme il est ^{vicaire} Supérieur et Directeur du Séminaire interne, lui donnant M. J. M. Gill comme assistant et Sous-Directeur des Novices et Étudiants. Tel était en effet l'arrangement que j'avais fait au Barrens, et que M. Huesy jugeait le meilleur qu'on pourrait faire dans les circonstances. M. M. Gill est un excellent confère, rempli de l'esprit de sa vocation, et il possède à juste titre la confiance des Novices et Étudiants, il est aussi un élève de la Maison-Mère, ayant fait son Noviciat à Paris. Il était convenu de mettre M. Rolando, assistant

au Cap Girardeau.

M. Justiniani ayant demandé permission de vendre une portion de la propriété à Baltimore on a décidé qu'on ne devait pas le permettre, et la même était la décision sur la proposition de disposer d'une partie de la propriété appartenante à la Province dans la ville de S. Louis. On jugeait imprudent d'en disposer à présent, parceque après une année ou deux on pourra obtenir un prix beaucoup meilleur, et alors nous pourrions solder nos maisons pauvres et payer nos dettes.

On a décidé que l'argent reçu de la Propagation de la foi devait être exclusivement consacré à l'éducation de nos jeunes gens, Etudiants, Novices et Postulants, que le petit Séminaire du Bonens et celui de Niagara pour raient recevoir une juste compensation, de pension pour tous les Postulants qui seront peus avec la permission du Vicaire, et qui ne pourront pas défrayer les dépenses de leur éducation. Pour les dépenses ordinaires de la Province, que chaque maison devait les défrayer selon ses moyens.

M. Lynch était autorisé à vendre ou hypothéquer la propriété donnée par Mons. Symon et premierement destinée pour le petit Séminaire, afin de la mettre en état de payer la propriété, où le Séminaire est présentement placé, le changement ayant été fait avec l'approbation de Monseigneur, et la permission de M. Masson. On a aussi convenu que nous ne pourrions pas agréer la proposition bienveillante de Mons. Symon, qui voulait nous

ceder l'église paroissiale de l'Immaculée Conception dans la ville de Buffalo. M. Lynch seul était en faveur de la recevoir, et il avait même, sur la demande de Monseigneur, chargé un Confère de la maison de Niagara, de cette ville jusqu'en aurait reçu notre réponse. Quant à moi, je suis entièrement opposé à la réception de cette charge, et mesler d'y tenir ferme, quand même Mons. ferait des instances nouvelles. Nous ne sommes pas encore en état de diviser nos forces, nos maisons actuelles ont besoin d'être fortifiées, et si nous avions des sujets surabondants pour nos besoins actuels, je préférerais les appliquer aux œuvres propres à notre institut, plutôt que les faire Curés de Paroisses dans les grandes villes.

Telles, très honoré Père, sont les matières principales sur lesquelles pourraient les délibérations du conseil et maintenant nous les soumettons pour votre approbation, ou si vous voulez bien y corriger ou changer quelque chose, nous nous sommes toujours heureux de nous conformer à votre jugement, de suivre votre avis en tout, et nous recevrons de bon cœur et avec reconnaissance quelque suggestion, que vous voudriez bien nous faire. Et moi je vous prie très instamment, mon très honoré Père de vouloir bien m'aider de vos conseils toujours pleins de bonté et sagesse, à supporter le fardeau pesant dont il a plu au bon Dieu de me charger. Suivant l'avis du conseil je vous demande les patentes pour M. Jean O'Reily, Supérieur de la maison de St. Louis, et M. Marc Anthony, Supérieur de la maison de LaSalle. Quant au Séminaire de Nouvelle Orléans et les maisons

de la Louisiane on ne pouvait rien déterminer et on a jugé mieux
 d'attendre jusqu'à ce que je pourrais y aller faire une visite; je me
 propose d'y aller le mois prochain. M. Studier m'écrit que
 Mr. Maragliani se fait souffrir beaucoup depuis quelque temps,
 qu'il ne fait pas attention à nos règles, et même tient peu à la com-
 pagnie. Je ferai mon possible pour le ramener. M. Henry m'a
 engagé de faire une visite régulière au Barrens, et je lui ai promis
 au plutôt que je recevrais une lettre de vous, qu'alors je serais plus
 sûre de votre volonté à l'égard des Supérieurs etc. de cette maison.
 Mr. Jacquemet, ~~un~~ de nos étudiants m'a remis une lettre à vous
 envoyer avec la mienne, M. Mason l'avait promis d'obtenir
 le changement, qu'il demande. Quant à moi, je n'ai aucune
 objection, si vous jugez à propos d'acquiescer ~~à~~ la demande. Je ne
 le connaît pas beaucoup, mais M. Henry m'a dit que les choses
 sont à peu près comme il les explique. J'ai donné permission à
 Mr. Dauteligne d'aller rester quelque temps à Cahokia, il a resté
 là quelques années auparavant, cela pourra lui faire du bien,
 et pour nous il ne peut pas faire grande chose. Je vous écrirai
 encore après mon retour de la Louisiane, pour vous dire comment
 nous avons arrangé les affaires locales, et alors je pourrai vous
 donner le personnel de toutes nos maisons. Permettez moi de vous
 dire en conclusion que je serai très content de recevoir quelques
 mots de vous, ou quelques nouvelles de nos chers Confrères de la main
 gauche, que j'ai ^{au} l'honneur de connaître. Daignez donc, si il vous
 plaît, très honoré Père, signer l'expression de profond respect
 et soumission, avec laquelle je suis dans les sacrés sacrements
 de Jésus et Marie votre indigne enfant et serviteur

P. R. Monsieur

S. Wyan S. P. C. M.

Monsieur Étienne

Sup. Gen. des Lazaristes

P. S. Ici je le pourrais déléguer au P. très révérend la
 faculté de donner le scapulaire de la Pénitence? S. Wyan.

College St. Vincent, Cap. Girardreau, Mo.

Le 18 Decembre 1857

Monsieur et tres honore Confere

"Gratia D. N. sit semper nobiscum"

Il y a long temps

que je me propose de vous ecrire quelques mots pour vous donner de nos nouvelles, et vous prouver, en meme temps, ma reconnaissance pour toute votre bonte envers moi, mais jusqu'a present, quelque chose m'a toujours empeshe, et fait différer ce devoir. Je pensais recevoir une reponse a ma lettre a M. J. H. Pere, et je desirais beaucoup savoir ses sentiments sur plusieurs choses dont je lui ai ecrit. Je ne sais pas pourquoi je ne puis pas recevoir aucune nouvelles de la. J'attendais toujours, et differais de faire d'autres changements, jusque je saurais, que c'est que M. J. H. Pere ^{penserait} concernant les arrangements, du Banou, St. Louis et ici. Au commencement de novembre je suis allé a Nouvelle Orleans. Le Seminaire est presque achevé, mais apres avoir consulte avec Monseigneur, nous n'avons pas juge a propos de l'ouvrir avant l'automne prochaine, a cause des maladies, qui y regnent pendant l'été. Nos Conferees ont laissee l'accomplissement et apres Pâques ils laiseraient l'accomplissement,

M. Verina, qui était à Painscourtville, est avec
 M. Andrieux, presque Pâques, quand M. Andrieux est
 destiné pour être Supérieur à Donaldsonville. Vous
 pourrez, s'il nous plaît, demander la Patente pour
 lui de M. S. H. Rev. J'avais emmené M. Lagiger avec
 moi pour professeur de Théologie au Séminaire, mais
 je l'ai laissé à Donaldsonville pour aider M. M.
 Baglioli et Maragliano, jusqu'à l'arrivée de leur
 Supérieur M. Andrieux. M. Thoma, un Allemand
 qui a été ordonné Prêtre cette année-ci est descendu
 avec moi pour servir l'Eglise allemande à Jefferson City
 où M. Krämer était auparavant. M. Hadden, qui était
 à Donaldsonville est pour le présent avec M. Deleros.
 M. Calvo est toujours dans un état bien fatigable,
 aux yeux des hommes, mais il est aussi, d'une patience
 inaltérable, d'une résignation à la Divine volonté, la
 plus parfaite. J'avais promis d'aller à Baltimore
 pour la Fête de l'Immaculée Conception, quand notre
 nouvelle Eglise devait être consacrée, mais c'était déjà
 le 3 de décembre, que je suis retourné, et je ne
 pouvais pas repartir tout de suite, surtout parceque
 les affaires ici n'allaient pas trop bien. Comme M. Cap-
 zuto souffre toujours de mal aux yeux j'étais obligé
 d'envoyer M. Rolando d'ici pour le remplacer, au moins
 pour le moment. Parmi les âmes ici il y a eu une
 espèce de mécontentement et une vingtaine sont partis
 dans le dernier mois. Le Supérieur du Collège ne
 peut pas s'absenter sans beaucoup d'inconvénients, et c'est

pour cela que j'attendais avec tant d'empressement la
 réponse à ma dernière lettre à M. D. H. Pere, pour savoir
 bien ses sentiments sur cet qui était soumise au Conseil
 provinciale des Supérieurs des Cap, et du Barrens. Il me
 semble qu'il y aura toujours des inconvénients pour le Vice-
 leur être le Président du Collège, et je ne sais pas bien
 comment l'arranger, c'est la maison qui me donne le plus
 d'angoisse et le moins de consolation, pas à cause des Confères
 parceque en general ils sont vraiment bons, mais je vois
 que nous ne sommes guere fait pour tenir un Collège,
 Nos Sujets sont moins qualifiés, moins disposés pour
 ça que pour tout le reste. Il me semble que M. J. Reilly
 de St. Louis ferait le meilleur Supérieur ici, quoique
 entre les Consultants il y en a qui ne croient qu'il
 conviendrait à cette place. Il est âgé, a beaucoup d'ex-
 perience, et il est capable, et avec un assistant, jeune,
 zélé et dévoué je crois qu'il ferait mieux que aucun
 autre, mais il fait bien au il est ouvrier, c'est pourtant
 beaucoup plus facile de le remplacer à St. Louis, que
 de trouver un autre pour ici. Daignez donc, je vous en
 prie, très honoré Confère, de me faire savoir les sentiments
 le jugement de notre très honoré Pere, si je dois rester ici
 ou si je dois aller au Barrens, que c'est qu'il pense mieux
 de faire en regard au collège, et alors je parlerai encore
 aux Consultants, parceque que plus tôt c'est déterminé
 et une bonne fois arrangé, le mieux il sera. J'attendrais
 donc avec impatience votre réponse à celle-ci; Vous
 savez peut-être déjà que une bande des Knaw crathings
 ont attaqué notre nouvelle église, la vieille de Louisa^{Baltimore}
 ils ont brisé les fenêtres et voulu peut-être l'incendier,
 si la garde n'avait pas sonné la cloche et alarmer le
 monde, qui sont accourus en foule pour sauver leur
 église. C'est la Providence du bon Dieu, qui veille à tout, nous

Mort D. M. Calvo Notre Dame

College St. Vincent, Cap. Girardian, Mo.

9 Janvier 1858

Monsieur et très honoré Père

Notre bien chéri s'il vous plaît.

J'ai le plaisir de vous annoncer la perte que Notre Province vient de faire dans la mort de M. Michel Calvo, Prêtre de Saint Louis à Nouvelle Orleans le 23 de 10^{bre} dans la 45^e année de son âge, et 27^e de sa Vocation.

Il a été un Missionnaire zélé, dévoué à la Campagne et au salut des Ames. Exemplaire et un Model de régularité pendant sa vie, il a été aussi un sujet d'édification pendant sa longue et pénible maladie, et sa mort était douce, consolante pour les assistants, précieuse aux yeux du Seigneur. "Petition in conspectu Domini" mors sanctorum spm. Permettez moi, Monsieur et très honoré Père, de vous présenter encore mes regards les plus sincères, et agréer l'assurance de ma plus profonde soumission,

Votre tout dévoué et humble Secrétaire

L. P. Calvo, S. P. C. M.

Jefferson City 12 d'Avril 1858
 Monsieur et bien estimé Confère

La grace de N.S. soit avec nous toujours!

Votre chère et estimable lettre du 11 Février
 m'est parvenue quelques jours avant mon départ
 pour la Louisiane, et quelque temps auparavant
 j'avais l'honneur de recevoir celle de M. J. H. Pere.
 Je vous remercie infiniment pour toutes les marques
 d'affection et d'intérêt, que vous avez bien voulu me
 exprimer, et je vous prie, Monsieur et très honoré Con-
 fère, d'enoir la bonté d'être l'interprète auprès
 M. J. H. Pere, de nos sentiments d'estime et d'amitié
 profonde et cordiale. Sa aimable lettre a été pour
 moi une nouvelle preuve d'amour et parlante de la
 bonté de son cœur paternel, qui se penche
 avec une affection particulière vers notre pauvre Pro-
 vince. Je me propose de lui écrire au plus tôt que
 j'aurai visité toutes nos maisons pour lui donner
 des détails sur l'état et personnel de chacune.

Dimanche passé, Mons. l'Archevêque a remplacé
 notre cher Confère, M. Andrieux à l'épiscopat,
 et celui-ci est déjà installé à Donaldsonville.

M. Verriena restera ici avec M. Delors, au moins jusqu'à ce que nous aurons pris possession de l'église de St. Joseph.

M. Lavigne, que j'avais laissé à Donaldsonville jusqu'à l'arrivée de M. Andrieux, descendra bientôt, et comme le Séminaire ne sera ouvert que dans le mois de novembre, il s'occupera notre dignes Confère, M. Delors qui, avec sa paroisse, a la direction de toutes les filles de Charité de la ville.

Pour le Supérieur du Collège je ne puis rien dire encore, M. J. O'Reilly ayant reçu sa Patente de Supérieur de la maison de St. Louis, et y résidant très bien je n'aime pas le changer. Pour le moment j'ai mis une jeune Confère M. Hayden comme mon remplaçant au Collège, mais comme sa santé est faible et il a une répugnance extrême pour la vie de Collège j'ai craint que la place de Président ne lui conviendrait pas. Après avoir consulté, je vous enverrai notre détermination sur ce point, et après les vacances je m'en irai au Baïreux, avant de quitter St. Louis j'avais prié Mons. Levesque de vouloir bien ordonner quatre de nos jeunes Confères, M. M. Rulie, Hare, Macmillan, et Gagnepain, le dernier néquit en France, mais est depuis son enfance en ce pays et les autres, Espagnols. Le 25 Mars, jour de l'ordination était convenu pour l'ordination, et quoique je n'ai reçu point de nouvelles depuis, j'espère que l'ordination a eu lieu.

Le 6 de Mai

Est obligé pour les affaires du Collège de faire un voyage à Natchitoches sur la rivière Rouge à peu près 500 miles de St. Orleans cela m'a pris beaucoup plus long temps que je ne pensais, et je suis hier revenu après avoir passé quelques jours avec nos Confères.

de Donaldsonville. M. M. Audreux, Boglioli et Maray
 liani ont assez à faire, la population est nombreuse et
 la Paroisse étendue et ils ont à plusieurs habitations pour
 enseigner le catéchisme aux pauvres esclaves. Ils ~~sont~~
 même de quoi bien occuper un quatrième Prêtre, mais pour
 le moment c'est impossible de leur donner un autre, car
 vers le mois de novembre prochain nous aurons à trouver
~~des~~ moins six bons ~~prêtres~~ pour bien organiser le Séminaire
 et l'Eglise de St Joseph. Pour cette dernière maison
 il en faudra trois robustes, zélés et capables, et pour
 desservir l'Hôpital il faut parler Anglais, Français et
 Allemand.

M. Buryach est ici pour les affaires de la Maison
 du Barrens et Lundi prochain nous nous proposons
 de monter ensemble. Vous avez ^{suprême} reçu des nouvelles
 sur la Mission que nos Confères M. M. J. O'Reilly, Henessey
 et M. O'Reilly ont donnée à Chicago, ville Considérable
 dans l'Etat d'Illinois. Le bon Dieu a beni leur
 zèle, et donné à leur travail des résultats les plus
 heureux et consolants. J'ai prié M. Henessey de mander
 à N. Y. H. Père des nouvelles la-dessus.

De M. Jacquemet M. Lull. Père ne m'a pas parlé
 dans sa lettre, et je ne sais pas quoi faire à son
 égard. Après avoir consulté je vous ferai savoir
 notre détermination. Pour ce qui regarde M. Lavizari
 je crois qu'il est décidé de rester dans la Province
 et comme il est tout à fait bon et exemplaire, je suis
 sûr qu'il fera très bien ici au Séminaire.

Comme je suis en voyage et bien pressé, avez la bonté,
 très cher Confère, d'excuser cette misérable lettre,
 et de vouloir bien vous souvenir dans vos saintes prières
 de toutes nos besoins, et de les mienner en particulier.

Votre très humble et dévoué confère J. Vignau S. P. C. M.

M^r Ogier - 12. Av. il. 6. mai - 58 -

quelques nouvelles sur le personnel de la Division

le 13. 4/5

Paris - 29. juillet

Il propose d'envoyer ici quelques étudiants
et il demande s'il peut accorder quelques notes
aux officiers. Il demande aussi de l'argent. Des
conférences

M^r le Doyen répondra à cette lettre

M. Ryan v. l'abbé d'Amiriqui demande permission d'envoyer à Paris 2 ou 3 Etudiants
 d'après la coutume pour les permettre d'envoyer les thésoriers d'Amiriqui
 il a pas d'argent latines — Demandé Confirmer d'Amiriqui et d'Amiriqui des officiers pour 2 maisons.

St. Mary's Sem. June 29th 1858

Monsieur et très honoré Père

Votre bénédiction s'il vous plaît!

C'est avec une extrême

douleur que je me trouve nécessité de vous
 annoncer la perte que votre Province a éprouvée
 dans la mort de notre très cher Confère, M. J. M.
 Delers, Supérieur de notre maison de Baugigny.
 Votre cœur paternel prendra part, j'en suis sûr,
 dans notre affliction, surtout en apprenant que
 notre V. cher Confère nous a été enlevé par un de
 ces accidents fâcheux et malheureux et trop fréquents
 dans notre pays. Il embarqua à N. Orleans sur un ba-
 teau à vapeur pour venir faire sa retraite annuelle
 ici, mais le bon Dieu avait disposé autrement. Le
 Dimanche après son embarquement, la machine à vapeur
 éclata et vint à briser d'hommes lancés sur le
 champ dans l'éternité. On trouvait notre cher Confère
 sur son lit dans le fleuve, mais hélas! brûlé presque
 à la mort. Un autre bateau, qui n'était pas loin,
 ramassait plusieurs de ces infortunés entre autres M.
 Delers, et le transportait à Memphis, ville quelques
 miles plus haut sur le Mississippi, où le Curé
 lui administrait les saints sacrements, et où il mourut
 dans les bras de deux filles de charité, qui avaient
 été sur le même bateau avec lui, mais qui
 étant avec plusieurs autres personnes, dans la
 machine, dans la pompe n'ont souffert aucun mal
 par l'explosion. Consolons nous donc, Monseigneur et tes
 Frères, de la Seigneur dans sa colère, dans cette visitation
 terrible ne pas oublier la miséricorde. Il a daigné
 accorder à notre cher Confère temps pour se préparer
 pour la mort. Il a providentiellement délivré nos sœurs
 d'un danger imminent. Dieu soit le nom du Seigneur!

Mais maintenant comment le remplacer au Séminaire,
 O si nous pourriez nous envoyer un bon Confesseur fran-
 çais! mais enfin, faites comme vous jugez à propos, nous
 mettrons notre confiance dans le bon Dieu, Il saura
 accomplir ses œuvres, et fournir les moyens nécessaires.
 Quelle grâce j'ai assisté à l'exhibition au Cap, et si j'ose
 j'ai assisté à l'examen de nos jeunes Confesseurs ici, tout
 Dieu merci, marche assez bien. Il y a seize dans la classe
 de Théologie; trois, en Philosophie, et cinq, qui n'ont pas
 encore fini leurs études classiques. Aujourd'hui même,
 trois autres ont été reçus au Noviciat, ils sont les premiers
 de notre maison de Niagara, un quatrième venu avec
 eux était trop jeune, je préférerais le laisser dans le
 petit Séminaire, jusqu'il aura l'âge prescrit par nos
 règles. J'aimerais bien, M. et S. M. Père nous envoyer deux
 ou trois de nos jeunes gens pour finir leurs études dans
 la maison-mère, être formés aux œuvres de notre vocation
 et en y puiser le vrai esprit. Citez la bonté M. et S. M. P.
 Que ma sœur sache si vous y consentez, je voudrais
 qu'ils seraient chez vous pour la rentrée de classes.
 Quelques Confesseurs me demandent permission de garder
 l'honoraire de la messe, pour acheter des livres et d'autres
 petites choses. Quelle est la coutume de la Compagnie, ou
 combien par mois pourrais-je leur accorder?
 Nous n'avons plus d'exemplaires Latins de nos Règles, notre
 maison de Lacolle n'a pas les Conférences de St. I. Fondation
 ni les règles des offices, pour la maison de St. Joseph
 à Nouvelle-Orléans nous aurons besoin de ces mêmes livres
 auriez-vous la bonté de les nous ^{faire} expédier. Demain
 aura lieu la distribution de prix ici au petit Séminaire,
 j'en parlerai alors pour Buffalo, Baltimore et Philadelphie,
 j'en serai, Dieu volente, au Cap pour la rentrée, après laquelle
 j'en irai ici faire ma retraite annuelle avec la communauté.
 Écrivez-moi, si l'on peut M. et S. M. Père au plus tôt possible
 et adressez la lettre à M. St. Vincent Chersky, St. Louis pour
 moi. Dans mes courses je pourrai les Consulter de la Province
 et je vous enverrai encore sur les différents sujets de notre délibé-
 ration. Adressez M. et S. M. Père, l'assurance de regard et permission de
 notre infirme mais dévoué enfant J. V. P. C. M.

- 1859

Etats Unis - M. Ryan

[illegible]

[illegible]

M. Ryan, Vicaire des États Unis
1860

Seminaire St. Marie, Barrens le 7 Janvier 1860

Monsieur et très honoré Père

(Votre benediction si elle vous plaît

Permettez moi quoique tard de vous souhaiter
une bonne et heureuse année, certes avec toute l'affec-
tion de mon cœur je salue pour vous, mon très honoré
Père, et pour nos deux familles dirigées par vos sages con-
seils et favorisées par vos soins paternels toutes les ben-
edictions de ciel, joyeusement nos enfants américains n'ont
pas oublié pendant ces grands jours de fêtes, surtout le
jour de l'an de prier le Seigneur de répandre ses
faveurs célestes, ses graces du cœur sur leur Père
honoré et leurs frères chers, dispersés dans le monde
entier. Comme nous savons déjà notre cher M. Lynch a
accepté la dignité qui lui a été offerte, et maintenant
il est Monseigneur, l'Evêque Coadjuteur de Toronto. C. M.
Comme nous n'avons pas jugé à propos de laisser M.
Henry Supérieur de notre maison de Niagara, et M. M.
J. O'Reilly depuis longtemps souffrait beaucoup à St. Louis
nous avons envoyé ce dernier remplacer M. Lynch à
Niagara. Et St. Louis les trois Confères peuvent suffire
au moins pour quelque temps, et par ce moyen nous
avons pourvu aux besoins pressants de la maison de
Niagara et à la santé affaiblie de notre cher M. O'Reilly

sans compromettre beaucoup les intérêts de la maison
 de St. Louis, car depuis assez long temps, il n'aient pas pu les
 aider. M. Burke maintenant remplit les devoirs de Sup-
 erieur a St. Louis, mais je ne croirais pas convenable
 de changer définitivement M^{re} O'Reilly, ni en cas de ce
 changement éventuel de désigner M^{re} Burke, Supérieur.
 Si, M. et S. H. Père, vous jugez bien, je laisserai les
 choses comme elles sont a présent jusqu' nous venons
 misera plus tard comment les arranger, peut-être jusqu'
 la fin de cette année scholastique. J'ai appelé ici
 M^{re} Bolando pour être d'opinion de la maison et pour
 avoir au moins un des mes consultants dans la maison
 avec moi. M. Lasee est allé le remplacer a Emmits-
 burg. Je désignerais aussi M^{re} M^{re} Gill, Consultant de
 la Province au lieu de M. Lynch, si vous jugez conve-
 nable. Jusqu'à présent le grand séminaire au Cap va
 très bien. Le mois de 9th j'ai visité nos Confères de la
 Louisiane, tout y marche assez bien, excepté que le
 nombre de séminaristes est fort petit, il n'y a que quatre
 un pour l'évêque de Vatchez, un pour Monseigneur de
 Galveston et deux pour l'archevêque de N. Orleans.
 Ce nombre peu considérable et le desir manifesté par
 Mons. l'évêque d'envoyer plutôt des sujets au Cap me
 faisaient penser qu'il ne valait pas la peine de laisser
 des Professeurs dans le séminaire, surtout voyant que
 nous avions besoin de Confères ailleurs. J'ai parlé de ces

a Mons. L'Evêque et Mons. Colin et ils semblaient
 tous les deux convenir qu'il serait mieux par plusieurs
 rapports pour eux d'envoyer leurs sujets au Séminaire
 du Cap Girardin. J'étais donc résolu de laisser à
 Jefferson City seulement les Confères nécessaires pour les
 Paroisses et de rappeler M. Lavigne pour Professeur
 de Théologie dans notre Maison de Barrens. Mais après
 mon départ quand on prenait des mesures à redresser le
 dessein Mons. L'Evêque a repenti et m'a écrit avec
 empressement de laisser encore le Séminaire comme c'était
 au moins jusqu'au Printemps si non, à la fin de l'année
 scolaire, et peut-être il y aurait alors espoir de le
 mettre sur un meilleur pied pour l'avenir. J'y ai com-
 senti et écrit à M. Verina de continuer à l'Ordinaire
 mais de m'informer vers le 1^{er} ou le 15^e de Mai quelle
 espérance on lui donnerait pour l'avenir. Elle est
 la Constitution du Séminaire de la N. Orleans, 1793. 18^e et 19^e.
 Pour la bonté de me faire connaître notre volonté en
 ce regard, si nous devions le continuer avec un si petit
 nombre de Séminaristes et des revenus qu'on ne jugeait
 ou si on doit le fermer. Si on le ferme on ne peut pas
 ôter qu'un de nos Confères, les autres sont nécessaires pour
 desservir les paroisses, il y'a en réalité trois Paroisses,
 Française, Irlandaise, et Allemande, quoique il n'y a que
 deux églises. Nos Confères la et aussi à la Maison de St.
 Joseph font beaucoup de bien. M. Verina depuis la

Mort de notre Confesseur bien regretté M. Buzsch est
 Pierre-Charles, il nous a écrit au regard aux dispo-
 sitions testamentaires de M. Deloras. Croyez la bonté de
 décider si nous pourrions donner les Messes pour lui
 prenant le canal ordinaire dans ce pays-ci. Il y a déjà
 plus qu'un an que j'ai écrit à M. Sturchei concernant
 cette matière, et jusqu'à présent j'ai pas reçu une réponse.
 Il a laissé mille piastres pour Messes pour son ame
 sans aucune mention dans son testament de l'aumône, mais
 en parlant de cela avant sa mort, il disait qu'il ne
 voulait pas donner qu'un franc pour chaque Messe, l'aumô-
 ne ordinaire par ici est un demi-piastre, dans la Lau-
 sienne un piastre. Une autre difficulté est que nous ne
 pourrions pas accepter une terre qu'il voulait nous laisser
 avec l'obligation de dire des Messes in perpetuum pour son
 ame. M. Verina nous a parlé aussi de ceci, et nous attend
 dans nos orches. Hier nous avons reçu au Noviciat quatre
 élèves de notre petit Séminaire, et le jour de Noël
 M. Kalmes a eu le bonheur de faire ses vœux. Monsieur
 qui j'ai eu à la Nouvelle-Maison parlé d'une vieille maison appartenant à
 nous ou à des personnes pour lequel on lui demandait une somme considérable, il paraît
 bien disposé envers la compagnie, et ferait tout ce que serait juste. Jugeant
 de ce qu'il me dit, et en regard à tous les circonstances, je ne crois pas que la chose
 qui est maintenant en vires soit grande chose, il avait fait auparavant beaucoup pour
 nos Confesseurs, et je serai disposé à lui remettre ce qu'il pourrait être utile à la
 compagnie, et je lui ai dit que je nous enverrais la chose. Cependant d'abord à l'a-
 venir de recevoir une réponse et des avis salutaires pour notre Province et
 pour ma conduite j'ose, M. et très honoré Père, vous présenter l'assurance
 de mes regards filiaux et amicaux entiers et profonds avec lesquels
 je suis votre humble et tout dévoué serviteur
 J. V. G. A. P. C. M.

m Ryau 23 Mars 60 ⁸⁶⁵

Seminaire St. Marie 23^{me} Mars 1860
 Messieurs et très honoré Confere

Gratia D. v. sit semper nobiscum.

Il y a déjà long temps que je n'ai
 reçu directement aucune de vos nouvelles,
 quoique deux fois au moins je vous ai ad-
 dressé quelques mots. Surtout sur l'affaire
 de notre cher défunt Confere, M. Deleros.
 j'attendais avec empressement votre réponse,
 peut-être que c'est perdue en venant, et
 maintenant, comme nous avons appris par
 votre lettre à M. Verina, et celle que notre
 très honoré Père a eu la bonté de m'adresser
 la solution de nos difficultés, nous tâchons
 de remplir ses intentions. Quoique ici
 plusieurs sont d'avis que nous pourrions
 garder pour les Meses l'honoraire de ce
 pays-ci, il n'y avait rien la dessus dans son
 testament et était seulement par parole qu'on
 a eu, qu'il voulait les faire dire comme en
 France, en France, chaque Messe, et c'est là
 contraire à la coutume ici, ou, l'argent

n'a pas la même valeur, un demi piastre
 n'est plus ici qu'un franc chez nous. Mais
 nous nous résignons à ce que nous désirons
 car nous ne voulons dans aucune manière
 infirmer la justice surtout envers les défunts.
 J'ai tant à l'heure reçu une lettre de notre
 bon M. Capozzuto, Officié m'écrivant qu'il est décidé
 de sortir de la Congrégation pour se faire
 Cistercien, il m'a dit aussi qu'il avait écrit
 au Supérieur Général, et qu'il serait inutile
 de tenter de le dissuader de son dessein.
 Je lui ai écrit longuement et fortement, mais
 je n'espère pas beaucoup de lui, que le bon
 Dieu le dirige et conduise, je crains pour
 lui s'il sort de chez nous. Je serai dans
 grand embarras pour le remplacer, je n'ai
 personne à y envoyer. M. J. O'Reilly est presque
 toujours malade, M. Anthony a été dernièrement
 atteint fortement d'apoplexie, M. Hemmuth, qui
 nous aidait beaucoup ici est maintenant malade
 à St. Louis, de sorte que nous avons grande-
 ment besoin de secours. Je crois qu'il
 sera nécessaire de faire venir nos deux

jeunes gens l'été prochain, M. Rice aura l'âge pour être ordonné Prêtre, M. Hickey pourra nous aider dans le séminaire.

Adieu la bonté, m. et très cher Confesseur, de me dire votre avis la-dessus, si on pourrait bientôt ordonner M. Rice, ou s'il serait mieux de laisser tous les deux passer une autre année à Paris. Mais je vous dirai verbalement, que, comme ici nous ne savons pas sûrement comment les choses vont, si vous craignez des commutations civiles à Paris j'aime mieux les avoir de suite, que laisser tout cela à votre prudence. Par rapport à notre cher M. Hickey, il est si attaché aux missions qu'il ne peut pas guère se résoudre à faire d'autre chose, et il ne dit aucunement qu'il n'a pas besoin de la permission des Supérieurs pour donner des missions, que c'est sa vocation, et qu'on ne remplit pas la vocation de la Compagnie sinon en travaillant aux missions. Adieu la bonté de me dire que c'est qu'on pense à Paris de pareils sentiments.

ments. Digne et estimable Monseigneur
 Simon m'a écrit qu'il craint qu'on néglige
 le petit seminaire à Niagara, et on conséquem-
 on nuit aux vrais intérêts de la Compagnie en
 s'absentant trop souvent de la maison en don-
 nant des missions par ici et par là. Je ne pour-
 rais pas faire parler de ceci du tout, ni venir
 à m. Henry la dessus, mais pour ma propre con-
 science j'aurais bien aimé l'unis de notre très hon-
 oré Père son confesseur, qui parle de la sorte,
 et dont la conscience ne se permettrait pas
 conseiller personne ailleurs dans la Compagnie
 dans cette Province parceque ici on ne vaque
 pas selon l'esprit de notre Institut aux missions.
 Vous travaillans aux missions, je vois, autant que
 nos moyens nous permettent, j'ai déjà donné quel-
 ques petites missions et le Dimanche après Pâques
 nous allons commencer une autre de deux semaines
 à Chicago dans une grande Eglise récemment
 construite et destinée pour Cathédrale.
 J'ay la haute M. et H. Confesseur, être l'interprète
 de mes sentimens de respect profonde et soumission
 filiale auprès V. S. H. Père, et de présenter mes
 regards sincères à tous nos estimés Confesseurs de
 la Maison Mère et me recommandant à vos prières
 pour l'honneur d'être toujours en union avec les
 Coeurs S. de J. M. immaculée.

Votre indigne mais dévoué

Serviteur & confesseur

L. Ryan S. P. C. M.

M. Sturche Com.

Assistant de la maison aux
 Paris

J'ay la bonte de donner à M. M. Poir et Hickey ces deux petites
 lettres. 512.

M. Ryan, Visitor, Etobicoke
1860

St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, Md. July 24th 1860
Rev & esteemed Confere

Gratia D.N. sit semper nobiscum

In my last long letter, which, by the by, I see you have published in the annals of the Congregation, I made no mention of our two houses of N. Orleans, because I thought that a letter of mine to a very dear and respected Confere of the Mother House, would be communicated to you, in which I gave very full details of the foundation and personnel of these two flourishing establishments. As it appears you have not received any information regarding them, allow me now, though late, to supply the omission, for to sure you, Rev. & very dear Confere, I would not ignore their existence, nor by any means disown most worthy Conferes laboring so zealously and successfully in that trying field, or by my silence withhold from the knowledge of the community the cheering and fruitful labors of our devoted Conferes in the Southern extremity of our vast Province. I must then, as in my former letter, beg you to accompany me in one of my visits to Louisiana, it is toward the end of Autumn, probably about the 1st of November, for we dare not venture South until the first frost has effaced all vestiges of the yellow fever, which annually either in epidemic or sporadic form pays a visit to N. Orleans and during the prevalence of this fell disease it is almost certain death for the unacclimated stranger to breathe the infected atmosphere. We will embark at St. Louis, for although we might wait at St. Mary's Landing for a steamer bound for N. Orleans still the delay there is very tedious and unpleasant and of uncertain duration as the large boats, that ply between St. Louis & N. Orleans, they are the largest on the Mississippi river, are oftentimes unwilling to land for

way passengers, so that I generally prefer when I visit the South to
 go up to St. Louis, where I have a choice of boats and a hospitable
 home where I can comfortably await the precise time of departure.
 Our boat selected, passage taken & birth secured we are sure to be
 on board at the appointed time and whilst the boat's crew are making
 by preparations to be off rolling in the tail of the freight, hurrying up
 some lagging passengers and their baggage, coiling on the deck the large
 chains and hawsers that firmly moored her to the shore and hauling the
last planks we will have time to look around and examine our
 magnificent Steamer, a regular floating palace. Her length of keel is
 (300) three hundred feet with a hold capable of containing fifteen hundred
 tons of freight. On the lower deck are six immense boilers be-
 neath which budge six roaring fires fed by as many swartthy fire-
 men and here is generated that mighty power, steam, which applied
 by a powerful double engine situated in the rear of the boilers
 propels two huge wheels, ^{one} at either side and thus gives motion
 and apparent life to this huge and heavy hulk deeply laden with
 a ~~valuable~~ cargo and richly freighted with human life, so that
 truthfully of her it may be said: "She walks the waters like a thing of
 life". The engines are of high pressure with cylinders and piston work-
 ing horizontally and two faithful engineers are constantly day and night
 on watch to regulate the stupendous force of that mighty agent which
 man's inventive genius has known how to tame and bring under perfect
 control, and attend to the different voices of the overhanging bells, which
 in well understood tones speak the orders of the Pilot above, to stop
 the engine or reverse the wheel or slacken the speed as circumstances
 may require. Above the engine and between the wheelhouses is an
 extensive but dark and gloomy space generally more or less densely crowded

by dark passengers or lighter articles of freight. Here in my last trip were huddled together no less than five hundred human beings, mostly Irish laborers going south to find employment during the winter season. Ranged along the quays in front of the wheelhouses were droves of cattle, cows, horses, mules and swine destined for the N. Orleans Stock Market. Now you have seen the lower deck of our vessel let us ascend to the second story. A fine, spacious flight of stairs conducts to what is styled the Boiler deck, or Cabin.

We at once find ourselves in a superb saloon extending the entire length of boat, elegantly furnished, a rich Brussels Carpet covers the floor, three mazy bronze chandeliers are suspended from the ceiling, a mellowed light is admitted through stained glass windows. and carved and gilt ornaments of varied forms and devices break the monotony of the long narrow ceiling and as it already commences to be chilly two large fires of bituminous coal send up a cheering blaze and comfortably heat the entire hall. Indeed the first coup d'oeil of the cabin of one of our first class passenger Steamers is charming and as you advance towards the Ladies' Cabin which is at the further extremity and more richly furnished with ornate chairs, and cushioned sofas large life sized mirrors and generally an excellent piano for the use of the lady passengers, anxious of music, you seem to lose entirely that feeling of discomfort usually attached to the idea of travelling. On either side of the hall are narrow chambers containing two berths each, in one of which we have already safely deposited our travelling bag and as the last signal for departure has sounded we mount a story higher to what is styled the hurricane deck to get a better view of the city as we leave the port. Slowly and cautiously we back out from our moorings and disentangle ourselves from the fleet of boats that crowd the levee and with proud turned down stream the city soon recedes from view

and the cross crowned spire of St. Vincent's church, one of the last objects within view, affectionately saluted and the blessing of Heaven invoked on our journey we are again at leisure to look around us on the hurricane deck. This is the roof of the cabin and in favorable weather it is a favorite resort, affording a fine place for promenade, and a good view of the country as we pass along. Two large chimney pipes twelve or fifteen feet in circumference rise in front to a height of fifty or sixty feet to carry off the smoke from the fires below. There too is a second cabin of smaller dimensions, where the Captain and officers of the boat have their apartments and perched still above this is the pilot house raised round about with glass windows, where the watchful helmsman ~~minutes~~ constantly stands at the large wheel to which the tiller ropes are attached and directs all the movements of the vessel, whose safety now mainly reposes on his care, experience and knowledge of the river. This is indeed a responsible charge, besides the cargo, and large number of deck-passengers already mentioned, the boat's officers and crew, we have from two hundred and fifty to three hundred Cabin passengers aboard, all now under Divine Providence committed to the hands of the trusty Pilot and the engineer who materially shares the pilot's responsibility. Neither is ^{the Pilot's} an easy task long experience on the river and close keen observation can alone qualify him for his post, he must know all the shoal places, sand bars and snags which are by no means rare especially in the upper Mississippi; he must be able to thread his way, especially at a low stage of water, through a narrow channel, veering from bank to bank and often changing as the capricious stream leaves a fresh deposit of sand or opens for itself a new passage through a hitherto impenetrable bank of sand or it may be by carrying away in its impetuous current one or two of the main land. Thus the Channel is ever changing, islands are forming and again swept away, the banks on either side ~~are~~ at the mercy of the wild stream, now receiving new accretions, now losing large tracts of arable soil, towns built on the banks are now for miles inland whilst others have been mercilessly denuded and thus the mighty Father of waters still flows on disdaining human caution and opening a most convenient, invaluable but ~~with~~ perilous channel of communication from

the Rocky Mountains to the Gulf of Mexico. But all this time we are under way, and already many miles below St. Louis, however at this season of the year the water is low and until we reach the mouth of the Ohio we cannot use a great head of steam. The frequent tinkling of the little bells beneath our cabin floor, which the pilot telegraphs his orders to the engineer, the heaving of the sounding lead in front, the occasional jar occasioned by the hard rubbing of the keel against the bottom and the hasty ring to reverse the engine disturb somewhat our first night's repose, but still we have managed to get a very refreshing sleep and as morning dawns we find ourselves passing Cape Girardeau which is one hundred and fifty miles below St. Louis and this distance we have travelled since 5 o'clock the previous evening. Here we land to take on board a few hundred barrels of flour and lime, for there are here four large flour mills and a couple of mammoth lime kilns, and hence an extensive export of flour and lime from this point, the city itself containing in all not more than 3000 inhabitants has received the proud title of the "Marble City" from the extensive quarries of very fine grained limestone which abound in the vicinity. We have had barely time to salute our good Conferees of St. Vincent's College when the signal bell is tolled and we must away. Our College, now the Provincial grand Seminaire presents a beautiful appearance from the river, situated on a terraced eminence, the main building fronting the river, a neat tower or bell tower at the southern end joining the main building with a new wing forty feet front, by eighty deep. Waving a salute to our conferees from the hurricane deck we received a similar sign of recognition and still we stood admiring the beauty of the location and the inscrutable ways of Providence, that slowly perhaps but always surely accomplishes his own designs. Forty miles below Cape Girardeau the Ohio empties into the Mississippi and from this down there is never a lack of water for even the largest boats, and from this point until we near the city the scenery is monotonous and

uninteresting. Above the junction the scenery is varied and pleasing especially on the Missouri side, there are ^{are} high, bluffs, precipitous cliffs and vast perpendicular rocks bearing evidence ^{of an immense fight} of the action of mighty waters at some long gone by period, when the whole valley of the Mississippi from the lakes to the Gulf was submerged perhaps ~~to~~ ^{to an} immense extent. Cairo situated at the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers two hundred miles below St. Louis is the terminus of the great Illinois central railroad and a point of call for all the boats trading on these two rivers. Its geographical position would seem to destine it for a place of great importance in a commercial point of view and hence great efforts and immense outlays of money have at different periods been made ^{to improve} it. Apparent destiny, but unavailing and it can never be more than a point of reshipment, the lowness of the land and its liability to inundation being insurmountable obstacles to its aggrandizement. Leaving Cairo we have Missouri still on our right hand, and on our left Kentucky, the chief products and articles of export in the state bordering on the Mississippi down to this latitude are wheat, Indian corn, tobacco and hemp. Only a narrow strip of Kentucky is bounded by the Mississippi and we consequently soon find our left bank to be the state of Tennessee, near whose southern extremity the city of Memphis situated on a high bluff bank already a considerable place is rapidly advancing in population and commercial importance. It has a tremendous line of packets trading with St. Louis and I believe a daily line to New Orleans, besides several railroads running north and south bringing the rich produce of the interior to her doors. It is in the diocese of Nashville has a large Catholic population and two churches attended respectively by English and German congregations. The immense pile of Cotton bales on the levee show at once that we have reached the Cotton growing region, and through this state and ~~the~~ ^{the} state of Mississippi that follows it on the left and Arkansas next to Missouri on the right and the northern portion of Louisiana Cotton is the staple product. Bishkek and of Mississippi. At Napacon a small town in Arkansas, named ~~St. Louis~~ ^{St. Louis} from our great Napoleon, and situated about midway between St. Louis and New Orleans the Arkansas river empties its waters into the Mississippi. The Arkansas is rather small at its mouth, runs through a rich cotton growing district and is navigable for small craft as far as Little Rock the capital of the state and an episcopal see, about two hundred miles above New Orleans.

The Red river joins its tributaries ^{waters} into the Mississippi and opens to the
 N. Orleans market the wealthy produce of an extensive sugar and cotton
 region. About this point the sugar plantations commence and vast
 waving plains of ripe cane now attract the traveller's view, and from the
 1st of November to the month of February the sugar houses are in active
 operations and day and night during the rolling season or what they call, "le
 roulement" the blazing fires must be kept up and the boiling kettles carefully
 attended. About fifty miles below the mouth of the Red river Baton Rouge
 the capital of the State of Louisiana is handsomely located on high ground
 and presents a very fine view from the river. There is here a large Catholic
 church; the Capitol and a state asylum institution for the deaf & dumb,
 are magnificent edifices. From this to New Orleans the scenery is diversified and
 delightful, the land is highly cultivated and divided into plantations of greater or
 less extent mostly set out in sugar cane with a tract for Indian corn and
 garden vegetables sufficient for home-consumption, a strip of wood land
 a grazing herd of cattle and a large rice field give variety to the otherwise
 monotonous nature of the land which is low and almost an unbroken level.
 The river even at its lowest stage is several feet above the level of the sur-
 rounding land and only by high and strongly built levees is the escape of the
 further of waters now swollen by so many tributary streams kept within bounds
 and prevented from submerging the whole country. In the commencement of them-
 selves when the river is swollen in the spring rains and the melting of the winter snow
 in the mountains the constant along the whole course of the river are frequent
 inundations and fearfully damages but the south is especially imperilled and should the
 artificial embankments yield to the heavier pressure and the undermining, wasting action of
 a very rapid current widespread and ruinous devastation is the consequence. I have
 travelled along the river when the water was lifting these embankments at places
 twelve and fifteen feet above the level of the adjacent land and when every wave of our
 steamer dashed against them endangering their permanence and terrifying the inhabitants.
 About three years ago a breach or rather term it a "breach" was made in the
 levee above N. Orleans, which all the skill and ingenuity of man having at their command
 the appliances of modern art the men and wealth of the country could not close, the
 pent up waters rushed through the opened gorge with irresistible impetus and all attempts
 to check the rushing tide proved abortive until the high water abated and the river sank
 to its natural level. Large plantations were thus ruined for years by the deposits of sand left
 on them and houses and barns and sugar mills and cattle were all indiscriminately carried
 off. In fact this region of country seems to have been settled a limited years too soon,
 the soil is all alluvial, and has not the beneficent action of the river been too soon
 obstructed by ^{the} ~~the~~ artificial levees, the risk and a violent deposit which the swelling cur-
 rent of the Mississippi might have rendered them unnecessary and secured the country from inunda-
 tion. Leaving Baton Rouge on our left in a few hours we pass Donaldsonville on our right, 80
 miles above N. Orleans. It is a small but neatly laid out village, we have as you know a
 house here with three good companies, serving a large parish and tending to the spiritual wants of
 a large slave population on several neighbouring plantations. This house and its members and

named occupations I notice in my last letter so that we will pass on after having left
 at the wharf a little note to inform you Mr. Audin that we were on our way to
 the Southern Metropolis and that we would be happy to meet him there. The beauty of
 the landscape increases as we approach the city, the magnificent villas and lovely
 mansions of the wealthy planter, surrounded by evergreens, Magnolias, Orange trees, bending
 beneath the weight of golden fruit, and fig trees, a spacious and tastefully arranged pasture
 blooming with every variety of beautiful flowers, sweet scented shrubbery and rare indigenous and
 exotic plants spreads out before the mansion and through its gravelled winding walks leads
 the delighted visitor to the hall door where he is always sure of a kind and gracious welcome
 from the proverbially hospitable and accomplished family of the Proprietor. At some dis-
 tance from the main dwelling stands another house of humbler dimensions and less pretentious
 mien, though large, commodious and comfortable and around this you will perhaps find our
 astonishment see groups of a small village of neat, white washed cottages all similar in
 form and size, here dwell the overseer and slaves, the latter on some plantations are
 very numerous and as a general thing they are well cared for, their physical wants abundantly
 supplied and inscribed aside from all feelings of humilit, and promptings of religion the interest
 of the owner requires him to preserve with care what he justly deems his most valuable
 possessions. I am not the panegyrist of the institution of slavery, too many crying moral
 objections to it almost of necessity especially when the masters are devoid of religious prin-
 ciples and strangers to the humanizing influences and supernaturalized views of the true faith,
 yet I have seen many happy, well reared and religiously instructed slaves and have known many
 excellent and Christian masters and have often witnessed master and slave side by side at the
 holy table partaking of the bread of life and I have celebrated the holy sacrifice on a vast white
 chapel erected and furnished by the wealthy planter solely for the use of his slaves, when the
 chapel was crowded by the swartly visaged sons of Africa and the venerable white haired patriarchal
 looking planter kneeling reverently and joining in the prayers, and the motherly matron of the house
 and her young and beautiful and accomplished daughters took their seated place on the market of
 the pious. The chapel with its small crooked spire and large sugar house or refinery with
 huge towering chimneys stood conspicuously on a promontory for many of the extensive and well
 ordered plantations which we pass along the coast, while the large parish church and
 some greatly edified created for educational purposes enhance the interest of the scenery.
 Some twenty miles beyond Donaldsonville St. Michael's a superb and most convenient
 the Ladies of the Sacred Heart rises up in grand proportions on the left bank of the river,
 some few years ago I visited it with deep interest and great pleasure, it is a highly and splendid
 popular institution affording a finished education to from two to three hundred young ladies
 from the city and surrounding country. The year after my visit the chapel, a respectable
 French clergyman, the lady proprietress and herself of high station became victims of the yellow
 fever and were carried off within a few days by that fearful scourge of the South. The majority
 of the inhabitants of this country are French Creoles and French is the language almost univer-
 sally spoken, the Priest best to be useful must know French, and with this language only will
 his services be a gratification and his labors productive of much fruit, so that you see some of
 our grand Conferences of France could here at once enter on a career of usefulness and find
 themselves at home with a population with habits and customs little differing from their
 own and speaking their mother tongue. I have now proposed a year time and patience
 by this long and I fear uninteresting description of my journey, I myself too feel tired of my long
 voyage for I have now been eight days on the river, which is the average time from St.
 Louis though the trip is sometimes made in five days and as we are already within
 sight of the great Southern emporium, we will, very dear and respected Conferees, with your
 permission go at once to the people's church, and rest awhile with our dear Con-
 ferees there who always meet us with a brother's hearty and affectionate welcome.

Yours &c.
 J. W. Ryan J. P. Am.

To be continued.

St. Mary's Seminary, Barrens, Perry Co. Mo. Sep. 5th / 60

Rev. very dear & respected Confere

Gratia D.V. sit semper vobiscum

New Orleans is as we have already said most advantageously situated for commercial purposes 100 miles from the mouth of the Mississippi river, which having run a distance of 2500 miles ~~as if~~ we count from the source of the Missouri river 5100 miles empties itself into the Gulf of Mexico. This great emporium of the South is built on the left bank along the winding bend of the river and hence from its shape receives the appellation of the "Crescent City". In commercial importance it is the second city of the Union, inferior only to New York, its river is constantly crowded by numerous vessels of all nations, Steamboats and river craft of every description, plying to the remotest navigable point of the many tributaries of the "Father of Waters" whilst on the wharf you will see heaped together in large quantities Cotton, sugar, molasses, flour, tobacco, pork & lead, the principal articles of export to different points of the Union, and to foreign climes. The population is about 140,000, though much diminished during the summer months for reasons already mentioned, and during the months of June, July and August comparatively little business is transacted. N. Orleans is an archiepiscopal see, and the recently deceased and deeply regretted Archbishop Blanc, who was the successor of our worthy Confere Monsgr. de Mackens, and who for nearly twenty five years governed his extensive diocese with prudence and ability, was a native Lyons in France and always a true and tried friend to the two families of St. Vincent. Gladly do I avail myself of the occasion incidentally to testify our grateful acknowledgments for the deplorable & multiplied acts of kind, fatherly benevolence shown us on every occasion by the lamented deceased Prelate, and thus pay to his cherished memory a merited tribute of most sincere and affectionate regard. To him we are indebted for our establishment at St. Joseph's Church and although the "grand Seminaire" was erected at our own expense and mainly through the untiring energy of our dear, lamented deceased Confere

Mr. Delacroix, yet his marked and very decided preference for our com-
 munity was shown by giving us the direction of his Seminary on
 our own conditions, the only ones on which the then Vice Visitor
 worthy Mr. Masson would accept it, although these conditions
 were opposed by the majority of the Bishops of the Province, and were
 not demanded by other excellent and learned religious who proffered their
 services to the Bishops, the good Archbishop well knew and frankly
 acknowledged what experience had taught us, that the good of the com-
 munity and the stability of the establishment required that we should
 be at home, and the property be our own. The Seminary is situated in
 Jefferson City, formerly styled Bauligny, a suburb of New Orleans, form-
 ing however a distinct municipal organization, electing its own civic
 officers and framing its own municipal ordinances. The location is
 well chosen and considered healthy, far enough from the densely crowd-
 ed city with its narrow, ill-kept and badly drained streets and lanes, and yet
 easy of access because within half an hour's ride of the heart of the city,
 by railroad cars, which run every hour and omnibuses, which leave every
 five minutes and run almost to the door. The building is commodious, airy
 and substantial, capable of accommodating about twenty seminarians with
 Professors &c. a larger number than they are likely to have for some time
 for vocations among the Creole population are rare and candidates from
 foreign countries rarely seek a home in the extreme South, if we
 except devoted young ecclesiastics from France, who with laudable, self-
 sacrificing zeal devote themselves to labor for the salvation of their country-
 men and much are their labors needed and well is their situation repaid.
 Oh! what a field does Louisiana present for a band of French missionaries
 animated by the spirit of disinterested, enlightened and indefatigable zeal of
 Vincent de Paul! How did the good Mr. Delacroix sigh for the time when
 with a couple of his fellow countrymen and Conferes he could traverse the
 different parishes of the State and bring back to the saving fold so many
 they sheep long and almost hopelessly lost to the church and to God! He even
 thought he should by a personal interview in which he could clearly and truthfully

from the necessities of the country and the immense good to be effected, obtain
 from our most honorable Father, two or three conferees for the purposes of
 Louisiana, but alas! how inscrutable the ways of Providence! The pious and
 praiseworthy desires were acceptable to Heaven and by a very sad and prema-
 ture death even he who could so advantageously be engaged in the chief
 work of our Company, was taken away and has almost said done to replace
 him, but no, our good God has dealt mercifully with us and upheld his own
 work. But still our good Conferees of the South, especially Mr. Ashieup are
 looking forward and hoping almost against hope to see the missions begun
 in regular missionary form. To return to the Seminary, the number of
 students would scarcely justify the keeping of Professors, were it not that the
 Professors are also occupied in the holy ministry. Two churches are attached
 to the Seminary and derive from it, and these two may be said to be equivalent
 to three for in one of them, two distinct congregations assemble at different
 hours to hear Mass during which they receive instruction in different languages
 so that in fact our Conferees of the Seminary have three parishes to attend, the
 Germans who have a small church for themselves, the English speaking
 people who have Mass and sermon at 8 o'clock every Sunday in the other
 church, and the French, who are the majority and have a sermon during
 the High Mass. The Conferees here are Mr. St. Verina vice-superior
 who was Mr. Delmas' right hand for some time previous to his lamented
 demise and on him devolved the management of the house and the office
 of the sacristan so unsatisfactorily called away. The Seminary was opened
 in the Fall of 1858 by appointing an excellent Confere, Mr. Bussach, Superior
 but in the commencement of the following Spring he too was called by
 the great Master of the family to receive his reward and on Mr. Verina
 again fell all the responsibility of upholding and directing the nascent
 institution and since then he has faithfully and successfully discharged
 all the duties of Vice Superior, as lover of regularity and strictly obser-
 vance of rule, mildly though firmly he presides over the little family
 which twice has special dispensation of Providence to be here chosen. The labor
 is shared and burden lightened by the efficient help of the conferees and devoted

[illegible]

and perfection were objects deservingly dear to the heart of the late
 pious and zealous Archbishop and he would consent to our reserving
 the pastoral charge of the congregation and Paroissantruelle on the
 constitution of our accepting St. Joseph's Church with the charge of attending
 the Hospital. Superior hesitated long, the charge of the Hospital was
 a dreadfully many thought it would involve a sacrifice of life which our
 poor Province it could bear. Yet there was a noble field there for
 the missionary's zeal, and we must say it had been to some extent at least
 neglected. Our good Sisters signed in silence to see the heaviest repons beneath
 their care and no resper there, and sorely were they grieved to witness the
 poor sick dying and no Priest at hand to hear his sighs of repentance and
 administer the consolations of religion and fervently did they pray our Lord
 himself to remedy the evils which they could but deplore. And when were
 the fervent prayers of the humble, pious and compelling soul offered in vain.
 After the last Provincial Assembly, with the permission of our most hon-
 ourable Father, good Mr. Magnan Vice Rector of the Province yielded to the inter-
 est instances of the deceased Vicar and promised to send subjects within
 as soon as possible. In the Fall of 1838 we were enabled to realize that
 promise and after a little mission of two weeks which was numerously
 attended and blessed by God, we installed Mr. Hayden, an excellent young Confess-
 rian and educated at the Barrens, as Superior, with three other Confes-
 sors to aid him in the new mission. The good Sisters rejoiced to see our brethren
 thus multiplying in the South, especially those of the Hospital and many were
 their acts of kindness, and much needed and duly appreciated was the
 material help given to our Confessors entering on this new field.
 Good Mr. Hayden and his Confessors have succeeded admirably, they have enlarged
 the Church, purchased property and built thereon a magnificent school
 in which the numerous children of the Parish will receive a good
 religious education. With Mr. Hayden there is an exemplary and truly pious
 Italian Confessor, Mr. Esquarone and Mr. Gagnevain, French by birth but
 raised at the Barrens, whose willing energy, zeal and kindness of manner are
 highly prized by the people and Confessors. Mr. Michael O'Reilly, raised
 at the Barrens, is also a most diligent and zealous worker.

previous to his entrance into our Community was stationed here and for some
 time attended the Hospital in tutelage with the blessing of God to send to their
 assistance and with the two good lay brothers who with I hope make a pretty
 well organized and efficient Community. So far our good God has been good indeed
 and the two past summers the dreadful epidemic has spared our Confreres. The Sisters
 of Charity have several houses in the city, besides the Hospital in which there are
 about twenty five sisters and at times over 800 patients, there is the Hotel Dieu
 a private infirmary belonging to the Sisters, it has been recently erected, is neatly
 arranged and appears to be very prudently managed by the good Sisters about
 twelve I believe in number. There are besides the Infirmary, the female
 Orphan, the Convent where the more aged orphan girls learn dress making a millin-
 ery or other suitable trades by which they may procure for themselves a decent
 maintenance in after life and not be thrown upon leaving the orphan upon a
 cold and heartless world, helpless and exposed. All these establishments of our
 Sisters appear to be successful and they are all on a scale commensurate with the
 wealth and provincial generosity of the Catholics of N. Orleans. The Ursuline, Carmelite
 Sisters of the Good Shepherd and Sisters of the Holy Cross have also houses in the city
 and not less than twenty churches & chapels. The Catholic religion is the religion of the
 great mass of the people and its public exercises are not only tolerated as in other parts
 of America but positively protected and honored, though many alas among its adherents have not
 the moral courage to practise it or conform their lives to its requirements.
 Last fall when in N. Orleans I witnessed a spectacle which shows that the public faith
 of the Community is catholic. Several Bishops had assembled to consecrate the Bishop
 Elect of Mobile, Monseigneur, successor to the lamented venerable Monseigneur Portier.
 Seven Arch Bishops, six Bishops and a large number of clergymen were in attendance.
 The Carabiniers and volunteer military companies determined to honor the ceremony by their
 presence in full military uniform. A large number of brightly polished cannons were ranged
 in line around the Cathedral, and at the same appointed the military with their bands of
 music were at the Bishop's residence to escort the clergy to the church. The procession emerg-
 ing from the episcopal palace headed by the Archbishop and lighted torches followed by a long train of
 surpliced Priests and Bishops in full Pontificals proceeded through the public streets between the
 files of these veteran soldiers, who in addition to the solemn march and accompanied the
 procession in the same order to the episcopal residence. Praying now a share in your pious
 prayers for myself and our Province I remain with sentiments of affectionate regards
 your humble, devoted Confrere, Wm. J. P. C. M.

St. Joseph's Cathedral Buffalo N.Y.

Oct. 12th 1861

Rev. very dear Conference

Gratia D. V. sit semper nobissem

I avail myself of a few moments of leisure to inform you and all our good Conferences of the pleasant news of our safe arrival in America.

After spending a few happy days in old Ireland, at Philshoro, Castleknock and Cork we sailed from Queenstown harbor on the 26th ult. and reached N. York last Wednesday the 9th making our passage of thirteen long days with stormy and disagreeable weather. We remained but a night in N. York and hastened to Niagara where, thanks be to God, we found all our Conferences in good health, and the seminary in a very flourishing condition. They have now seventy students, a far larger num-

ber than they ever had before, so that they have actually no room to receive them, some being obliged to sleep in the parlor, and as there was a strange Priest on a visit they had not a chamber to receive us when we arrived. No build here is a necessity and if we only had a good building or the means of putting one up we could in a short time have a magnificent Seminary.

I must tell you some more good news the Seminary at Cape Girardeau, where they are in the midst of the war and surrounded by soldiers and camps and where we feared the Seminary could not be opened at all, they commenced studies at the usual time with over fifty Seminarians. At the Barrens however they have but few and very probably will have but few during the year. Our own Students are there still as they very prudently decided not to send them to St. Louis until impending dangers are removed. I cannot give you any

particular details of how things stand
 out there, but very soon with God's help
 I will be there in person. I came here
 to see good Bishop Simon and he constrained
 me to remain with him over Sunday. I
 will on Monday morning return to Niagara
 spend a few days there with our Congress
 and leaving Mr. O'Reilly there until further
 news proceed alone to St. Louis calling at
 LaSalle on my way, and as soon as possible
 afterwards visit the Barrens and Cape Girar-
 dean. Mr. O'Reilly is not quite so well as
 when he left Paris, & thanks be to God, am
 in excellent health, though I suffered much
 on the voyage homewards, they say here
 that I am much improved by my trip.
 I am not able to give you any reliable in-
 formation in regard to the prospects of our
 country; in the north they seem determined
 to carry on the war vigorously, and in my
 opinion present appearances seem more
 favorable to an ultimate, successful

subjugation of the South, they now have large and I believe well organized armaments by land and sea, and seem determined not merely to blockade, but to take forcible military possession of the seaboard and Southern ports. What force the South may have to meet this invading force and frustrate the Northern designs I cannot say, so that we must await further developments, and in the meantime pray fervently for our poor country. Mr. Maoney of N. York is here and tells me that he has received the invoice of goods shipped for us, I will leave all here at the Seminary until I see how matters look out West. I heard since I left that our houses of Naples have been suppressed, is it true? One or two good Professors of Theology would be very useful to us, but unless they are competent as Professors and as missionaries of a good example spent, I would prefer not to have any.

Please to let our most honored father know of our safe arrival and present him our homages of profound regard and filial submission, to our Conference all without exception please to come to us most affectionately and respectfully and begging a share in your prayers for my poor self and a remembrance of the Holy Altar I remain with sentiments of true affection and regard your hum. & devoted Son

Wm. A. B. C. M.

Rev. Mr. Malley C. M.

P.S. When you write direct your letter to St. Vincent's Church, St. Louis, Mo.



Mr. Maller.

St. Mary's Seminary
L'Anson & LeComme nous ont
Honneur de faire le voyage en bateau
à bord d'un bâtiment de la Compagnie
le 15 mai. My wife & I left
a fair autumn. My wife & I left
my wife & I left my wife & I left
my wife & I left my wife & I left

Notre benediction s'il nous plaît.

Nous attendez sans doute des nouvelles de notre amitié au milieu de nos confines de l'Amérique, et nous n'êtes pas, peut-être, sans sollicitude concernant vos enfants dans un pays si travaillé par les agitations politiques et la guerre civile. Je suis heureux donc de pouvoir vous dire que jusqu'à présent tout va assez bien, et nos œuvres marchent à leur train ordinaire. Nos maisons de Niagara, Lacolle, St. Louis, Cape Girardeau, et Barrens, que j'ai visité, n'ont pas été du tout détournées de leur occupation, seulement ici nous n'avons pas, et nous n'avons pas cette année beaucoup d'élèves.

J'ai reçu des nouvelles par lettre de
 nos confères à Emmetsburg, Baltimore
 et Germantown, ils sont tous bien, tran-
 quils. J'ai laissé M. O'Reilly à Niagara
 jusqu'à ce venait l'état de choses à
 St. Louis, et je viens de lui écrire de
 venir selon votre desir résider à St.
 Louis, Quoique les affaires à St. Louis et
 dans tout votre état de Missour, sont
 bien loin d'être arrangées, on se bat
 tous les jours en diverses endroits et per-
 sonne ne peut encore décider à tout
 cela abatera où grand en sera la fin.
 Je viens d'une visite au Cap Girardeau,
 à notre maison et grand Séminaire
 au milieu des armées qui sont encampées
 autour la ville, et tout près le Séminaire,
 où on a fait des fortifications considérables
 sont admirablement bien. Les soldats avaient
 pris toutes les autres églises dans la ville

pour en faire des hôpitaux ou des casernes,
 mais la note aussi bien que le Séminaire
 ils ont respecté, et le Dimanche que
 j'y étais, notre église était remplie des
 officiers et soldats, qui se comportaient
 très bien et accouraient avec la plus grande
 attention quand dans un petit sermon je leur
 parlais du Saint Père, de Rome, et de
 notre ^{sainte} église toujours inébranlable au milieu
 des tempêtes, et toujours enseignant la vraie
 doctrine, les vrais principes de la religion
 et morale qui peuvent seuls sanctifier les
 hommes et sauver les nations, et quoique
 ils étaient presque tous protestants ou infi-
 dèles, ils se mettaient à genoux quand
 la fin du sermon je leur donnais la
 bénédiction papale. Voilà donc Monsieur
 et très honoré Père, si nous n'avons pas
 raison de remercier le bon Dieu pour bien
 de faveurs et la protection spéciale qu'il

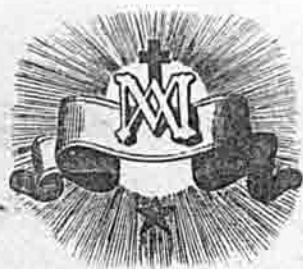
nous a secouru. Nous mettons notre confiance
 en Dieu, quoique les choses peuvent changer
 tous les jours, à ce moment deux grands
 corps d'armée sont dans le champ de ba-
 taille, et le jour même que j'ai été parti du
 Cap, tous les soldats de là sont allés
 livrer bataille aux confédérés. Il peut
 bien arriver qu'on prenne le Seminaire
 pour en faire un hôpital pendant l'hiver.
 Nous tâcherons de faire le mieux que nous
 pourrons selon les circonstances, et nous
 espérons dans la bonté de Dieu et de sa
 immaculée. (Mr. Mc Gill et tous nos Confères du
 Cap travaillaient avec zèle et ont bon esprit, mais
 le procureur n'est pas égal à son poste et dans
 les embarras financiers, et le commencement d'un
 établissement si important je le crois nécessaire
 d'y mettre quelqu'un habile dans ce métier.
 Comme nous n'avons pas beaucoup parmi nous
 je pense d'y mettre Mr. Burke, quand nous
 pourrons nous arranger à St. Louis, car, Mr.
 O'Reilly ou quelqu'un des autres conseillers
 pourraient bien au moins pour certain temps
 remplir les devoirs du Procureur provisoire.)
 Mais pour le moment nous ne changeons rien
 et je reste ici au Barreau jusqu'à ce que nous voyions
 quelle tournure les choses vont prendre.
 Nous n'avons point de nouvelles de nos Confères
 dans la Louisiane, mais on dit que M. Baglioli
 de Donaldsonville est allé en qualité de chap-
 lain avec l'armée du Nord. (D'après Mr. Verina a
 reçu un novice, un jeune clerc, qui a presque fini
 sa théologie, et le fait faire son Seminaire le bas,
 il ne pas demandé ma permission, et il ne paraît
 pas le demander, mais puis-je l'admettre ou non?)

quand les deux ans sont finis. Le jeune homme
 Marget parle quand j'étais la dernière fois
 à la Nouvelle-Orléans, et j'ai promis de
 le recevoir au point qu'il avait la permission
 de son Evêque. M. Berlanda me dit, que
 Monseigneur O'Rourke de Baltimore
 nous offre, dans quelques circonstances, qui peu-
 vent aisément et prochainement arriver, le
 Collège de Mt. St. Marys près Emmetstown
 c'est un grand établissement, collège séculier
 et Séminaire. M. Maller le connaît bien
 et peut nous donner tous les renseignements
 nécessaires. Mais j'ai répondu à M. Berlanda
 que je ne pourrais pas y penser, ni le don-
 ner pour délibération au conseil, ni en
 parler au Supérieur Général, jusqu'à ce que
 les conditions et tous les détails de la propo-
 sition de Monseigneur. Quand il me donnera
 l'information que j'ai demandée, je parlerai aux
 consultants, et nous verrons leur sentiment,
 Au Printemps prochain si les affaires sont
 un peu mieux, il sera nécessaire de partir à
 Niagara, leur pauvre maison ne peut pas main-
 tenir tant de personnes qui se présentent.
 Ce soir notre communauté ici commence la
 retraite annuelle et comme nous ne recevons pas
 ma lettre avant la conclusion nous supplions tous
 nos saintes prières que les fruits que nous espérons
 tirer de cet exercice saint restent, et opèrent notre
 sanctification et nous voulons tous offrir, à nos
 monseigneur et très honoré Père, dans la simplicité
 de nos cœurs les hommages de la plus profonde
 et affectueux cordiales avec lesquels nous sommes en
 union avec vous & votre immaculée. Nos cœurs tout émus et
 en particulier votre très bon, très cher

St. Paul, Minn.

1861

Etat Unis
M^r Ryan
Visiteur
Rep le 10 Dec.



Murphy, Bal.

St. Mary's Seminary

Perryville, Perry Co. Mo.

Nov. 25th 1861

Rev. & very dear Confere

Gratia D. N. ut semper nobiscum

I wrote to you on my arrival and promised you some more news after I should have seen how matters stood in Missouri, this promise I now fulfil. We have just concluded our annual Retreat here at the Barenus, and thanks be to God it has been edifying and consoling to see the piety and fervor of the whole community, Priests, Students, Novices & Brothers. The young Priests who were ordained last July and made a Retreat of five or six days, made only the last three days with us, I know not whether it is customary to make the ordination Retreat count for the annual retreat or not; they continued all the classes in the little Seminary until the boys too began their

Retreat of three days and all closed happily
 and satisfactorily on the feast of the Presentation
 of our B. Lady. We are as quiet here as we
 ever were, and we can scarcely realize the
 fact that our country is a prey to civil war,
 and that combats are thickening around, and
 camps almost within view. A battle was
 fought some time ago in the bricktown ~~that~~
 you know is only about 25 miles from us,
 and now there is not far from us a camp of
 home guards, federal troops numbering about
 a thousand. Yet we are unmolested, suffering
 in no way except from the general prostration
 and hard times induced by the war, and the
 paucity of our boys in the little seminary
 as parents are unable or unwilling in the
 present disturbed state of the country, especially
 Missouri, to send their children home. We have
 however over forty and all good promising,
 but several of those we are supporting

And some others are from the South and
 consequently we can receive neither communi-
 cation nor remittance from them. ^{Partly} This
 shows you that, ^{though} in no way directly molested,
 we have our share of the very heavy burden
 weighing down the nation, to bear. I will
 enclose in this a list of the personnel of the
 different houses, which you will please hand
 into the secretariat with my compliments.
 I wrote to our most honourable Father, just before
 beginning our retreat after a visit to Cape
 Girardeau. They have about fifty seminarians
 there, our college and church have been re-
 garded as sacred, and the greatest respect shown
 to all our people. The Cape is strongly
 fortified, four heavy earthworks have been
 thrown up in important and commanding
 positions, and are garrisoned by from three to
 five thousand men, sometimes more, sometimes
 less, no one can leave the town without

a pass from the Provost Marshal and pickets are thrown out on all the roads leading to & from town. In going down to our lower farm I was stopped by the pickets and made show my pass no less than five times. All the meeting houses and schools in the town were occupied by the soldiers as hospital or store houses, so that we have reason to be thankful for the exceptional immutability of our church & colleges. After the engagement at Medinetown the church was plundered and although there are contradictory reports it is a fair guess that the consecrated spaces were thrown upon the ground, all blame however rests on the unauthorized and unbridled individuals. St. Louis too is quiet but yet kept in a constant state of suspense and excitement from the frequent changes of the heads of the department, Fremont has recently been recalled and this department divided, Halleck having command of Missouri and Huntley of Kansas. There were grave apprehensions of insubordination in case of Fremont's removal, but all has passed off quietly. With the change of command, the policy seems to be changed and the corps commander of the U. S. troops in Missouri have returned to St. Louis, probably with a view of operations down the Miss. river, but I do not know their policy and can give you no news of the war in other parts or the prospects for peace. Our reports are so conflicting, our news so little reliable that I scarcely pay any attention to these matters leaving all to Almighty God and praying him to shorten the time of his visitation and principally, forgive his own. I have written to Mr. O'Reilly to come to St. Louis, Mr. Rolando I would also bring with him at once in order to have as many of the counselors of the Provision as possible with me, but Mr. Rolando tells me that he has refused the Sup. Gen. to send him to California as Director of the Sisters, I overrule the determination then of the higher authorities and wish to say nothing unless my opinion is asked and then I will oppose sending anyone for California because I do not wish to see our Confession isolated and our forces here weakened. I purpose going to St. Louis in about two weeks but whether I will make that my residence and take the students thither this year or not, must depend on circumstances and the aspect that things wear and are likely to wear, this winter or the coming Spring.

I am surprised that we have not yet received the decrees of the last assembly and circular of our M. M. Bishop to this Province. Last mail brought us the biographical notices of our Confessors, I received them with pleasure and will have them read in the assembly in English. Please to tell Sister Dwyer that she has been named in N. York, but not yet there, Mr. O'Reilly will bring them with him, when he comes to St. Louis. Please also to tell Mr. Hurand that I have not yet received the bill or account of my indebtedness, or number of intentions, which I have to discharge, and Mr. Barlier is anxiously awaiting the "Monsieur" I requested Mr. Hurand to subscribe for it and send it to my address. I spoke in my letter to the Sup. Gen. of changing Mr. Burke to the Cape in case I should be able to get my residence in St. Louis. I have many reasons for it, the present Procurator at the Cape is excellent for all out door business and very trustworthy, but his manners are rough and he can get along with neither the Confessors nor Students, Mr. Burke would be well and especially his presence there would give confidence to Bishops and their Students, his presence in the house with our own Students no more I would not much care about for reasons you may know, particularly his blunt and almost indelicate manner of blasting, which might leave its impression on our young men, besides he may remain Provincial Procurator though at the Cape, or one of the Priests, who must be in the house will be able to transact that business. Bishop Domene was lately at Germantown and refused to give us any satisfaction or make any settlement of the affairs of that house until he would hear from the Sup. Gen. or myself how he stood in relation to the Cong. I wrote to him since telling him that in accordance with a decree of a Gen. assembly the Sup. Gen. is unwilling to recognize or grant the privileges of membership to any one accepting the Episcopacy without his previous permission. I await his reply, yet in regard to this matter, there is a distinction, which Bishop Simon urges very strongly, between being a member of the Community, and getting the suffrages of the Community, the decree declares that such shall not be entitled to the usual suffrages, yet this he holds is by no means equivalent to expulsion from the Community, and he moreover says that the Holy See would not only not approve but would disapprove any decree expelling a member.

for an act of disobedience to the Holy See, we have a right to deprive them of our privileges but not to expel them from the Congregation. Please to examine this matter and if you think advisable lay it before the higher Council. For my part I would be for extending even all the Privileges of membership, suffrages &c. to Bishops Simon & Colin, but to none of the others, and to them by exception, because the circumstances of their acceptance of the dignity were exceptional, and because of their attachment and good will and constant affection to the Congregation they have given many unmistakable and solid proofs, and if there was any chance of obtaining it I am sure the whole Province would petition for it. These two good Bishops are still in hearty worthy and devoted children of St. Vincent. Mr. O'Brien is still here well contented and very serviceable teaching theology to our Students, indeed I could not now supply his place. Mr. Pinal is in St. Louis, still sick and indisposed, I remember indeed the good Rector of Mexico did not write at all to him, to tell him one thing or the other, he will never be any service in this Province, unless indeed he be sent to California with some good reliable Company. Fr. Canby was speaking to me about a letter received from you, granting him permission to return to his own country, now I have not much objection to this but I have a great objection to make our poor Province pay the expenses of his voyage, and as I told him I will never consent to do so, for him or any one else returning home, except by obedience to my Superiors. I have been thinking of sending two of our Students to make their theological studies in Paris at the Mother house and a third to Rome, yet I can not decide on it, I have somehow or other a vague dread of revolutions in Europe, now I ask your advice 1st whether you think there is any ground for apprehension of a dismemberment of the government, or any break up within the next few years, that might interfere with our studies prosecuting their course of studies; 2^d whether you think the advantages accruing would compensate for the little or great inconveniences which you may find in the execution of this proposal. The Sup. Gen. would I know be pleased to have a couple of our American Students in the Mother house and I would myself also for some reason, wish to have them stay yet I see difficulties and dangers in the journey and during the stay there, I will await your well considered opinion. I believe I have mentioned all the topics now occurring to my mind only to me and that if you feel an inclination to come to see and do not be deterred by the civil war, you will be able to do as much good as in the time of peace and will be received with open arms by a fraternity pursuing peace and good will to all mankind. Please to be the intercessor of my dear friends of profane respect and filial affection to our most honored Rector and to our most respectfully to all our Superiors at the Main house, Oremus, Amen. I enclose the act of admission of J. O'Brien and remain your own friend &c. &c. L. J. O'Brien



Resp. le 1 Avril. Il peut recevoir
le vieillard comme père convalescent
sans lui laisser faire les vœux et sans
suffrages après la mort. Sans tout le
reste comme père coadjuteur.

St. Vincent's Church, Germantown, Pa.

Feb. 10th 1862

Rev. and my dear Confessor

Gratia Duv. sit semper nobiscum.

I have been very anxiously awaiting
a reply to my last letter to you, but it
has not yet come to hand. I left the Bureau
in the beginning of last month, spent a few
days in St. Louis, where Mr. Pinol is still
sick and down hearted and discouraged and he says
determined not to stay in the country, though
he should have to beg for money to defray
his expenses. I wrote to you about him, and know
not what to do with him, his Visitor has
not sent him a line and appears to forget that
he is here. I beg you if you have not yet
attended to his case, to let us know what Superiors
wish us to do in regard to him. From St. Louis
I went to Niagara and spent a couple of
weeks with the Confessor of our Lady of Angels.
They are, thanks be to God, all well and as I saw

before, to build is with them a necessity,
 hence we have already contracted for a wing
 of a proposed new building. The wing is to be
 completed before next Christmas and to cost
 (\$9000.00) nine thousand dollars. (Mr. Smith has
 already commenced collecting for it and if times
 improve, we hope with the help we ex-
 pect from good Mr. Salvage to be able to meet
 the payments, anyhow without building on the
 place. we will never be able to have a
 Seminary there or have revenue enough to
 pay the interest on the already heavy debt.
 Here there is a good old man very anxious to
 become a lay Brother, but he is over fifty years
 of age perhaps 52 or 53, yet hearty and strong
 the Confessors are well pleased with him and wish
 to receive him besides he has some means, more
 than enough to prevent him from ever being
 a burden to the Community, please to let me
 know from our most honored Father if notwith-
 standing his age I might receive him. I came
 here to meet Bishop Domene, who was here on
 a visit and spent a whole week among us

former Parishioners to whom he is still much attached. I wished to get him to arrange the affairs of this house, he still keeps the records of the incorporation and we cannot know how things are and who are the Trustees. I pressed him to deliver those books into our hands and let us manage the matter henceforth and appoint for among ourselves the required number of Trustees. He promises to do so and says that everything is right, but yet he evidently wishes to have a hold on the place, especially, he says, as he is now turned out of the Congregation after all his labors in securing this valuable property and building this fine Church for us and if anything would occur to oblige him to leave Pittsburg as he could not return to the bosom of the congregation, he would be left without a home in his old days. He claims about (\$3000..) three thousand dollars, which he received in various persons or partly as a loan from certain individuals, which under certain emergencies he would think himself bound in justice to refund. I told him that the Church here must be responsible for any

just claims against it, but that he must state explicitly and clearly what they are, so that we may call on the people here ^{to} meet them, which we will do when he satisfactorily arranges our affairs. He would however have no claims to make if he were offered of a home in the Congregation should he hereafter need it. I told him I did not think he would even be refused an asylum in any of the houses of the Province but I could not speak definitely or authoritatively on the subject because I did not know the will of the Superior or the practice of the Congregation in regard to such matters. Rev. C. Maginnis deceased had left mortgages on the property of Niagara to the amount of \$10,000 ten thousand dollars, as he died without will his heirs claim that sum. I am trying to compromise with them and will probably succeed by giving them \$4,000.. and leaving them three free houses in the Arch Seminary for the education of sacerdotal students. Enclosed you will find certificate of the powers of three students and a Brother please to hand it to the proper department. Yesterday I began a little mission for the people of this Parish, it promises to be well attended, before returning home I am to give a course more in N.York. Please to write to me immediately directing your letter to South of our Lady of Angels Suspension Bridge, Niagara Co. N.Y. I have not yet received the accounts from Mr. Hurault and know not how much I owe him for books forwarded.

Myself and the Prov. Procurator are also anxious to hear from Mr. Salvage, to know what we can count on from him, tell him to be generous and big hearted to as especially this year, I can give you no political news, you doubtless get as much news as I could give you, we are yet in a poor state and looking forward with no little anxiety to the action of France & England. I have here not many of the old students of St. Charles, who remember you with affectionate respects, my profoundest respects to A.B.M.P. and love and regard to all the Confessors of the Faith here, begging you to pray for me who sincerely & exclusively subscribes himself
 your humble servant & devoted Confessor J. J. Van A.P.M.



Eglise S. Vincent, Germantown, Pa.

Le 4 Mars 1862

Monsieur et très honoré Père

Votre benediction s'il vous plaît,

Je viens d'arriver d'une petite visite
à nos Confères de Baltimore et Emmitsburg.

À Baltimore il y a maintenant trois Confères,
Mm. Giustiniani, C. M. Smith et Monaghan.

Ce dernier y a été envoyé principalement
pour nos Sœurs de "Mt. Hope Retreat" qui
n'avaient point de Chapelain, et ne pouvaient
pas quelque fois assister à la sainte messe même
le Dimanche, cet établissement est si loin
de l'église, et Monseigneur, l'archevêque m'avait
demandé plusieurs fois un Confère pour défendre
cette maison. Nos Sœurs sont maintenant contentes
et M. Monaghan, un bon et doux vieillard se réjouit
aussi d'être à même de leur faire du bien.

Les deux autres aussi travaillent avec succès et
benediction à Baltimore. M. Giustiniani est un
Confère d'un excellent esprit pieux et prudent,

M. Smith, un jeune Confere qui manque d'experience et penteter du jugement un peu, mais qui se laisse conduire et fera toujours du bien sous la direction d'un autre.

A Emmitsburg Mm. Burlando et Gandolfo sont tout ce qu'on pourrait desirer et travaillent incessamment sans se fatiguer pour nos Soeurs de S. Joseph, mais pour ce que regarde M. Lesco, qui avait la charge principale de la Paroisse d'Emmitsburg j'ai quelque chose a vous dire, M. et tres honore Pere, qui nest pas tout a fait si agreable. Dimanche passe au soir, presquement le soir avant mon depart de la, il est venue me dire, quil ne pouvait plus rester dans la compagnie, que les affaires de sa famille a Naples l'obligeaient de se retirer afin de pourvoir a leur besoins, quil avait demande au Superieur Gen. par M. Sturche son dispens de ses devoirs ad tempus ou in toto, et quil n'avait recu aucune reponse et maintenant le temps est venu et il est oblige de faire cette demarche avec ou sans permission en attendant la reponse de Paris ou de Rome, si il avait

fait et devait encore faire application pour
 la dispensation de ses vœux dans la Compagnie.
 Il m'a dit qu'il n'aimait pas me contraindre,
 et voudrait mieux avoir ma permission d'agir
 jusqu'il aurait réponse de l'autorité supérieure,
 qu'il ne pouvait pas différer et qu'il devait par-
 tir cette semaine, qu'il avait consulté la
 Théologie et des Théologiens et qu'il croyait que
 les droits de la nature l'emportaient sur toute
 autre obligation. J'étais un peu surpris, par-
 ce que c'était la première fois qu'il m'avait
 parlé la-dessus, et il n'était pas dit un
 mot à M. Beuland ou autre Confesseur, mais
 je refusais de lui donner aucune autoriza-
 tion, je n'avais pas la puissance ni la volonté,
 il avait déjà pris sa détermination sans me
 consulter et sans me donner même le temps
 de faire venir un autre à le remplacer, et
 qu'il prendrait toute responsabilité de sa de-
 marche sur lui, et que je mettrais un autre
 à sa place aussitôt que je pourrais. (Maintenant
 M. et J. H. P. je laisse à votre jugement cette
 affaire convaincu que le bon Dieu nous

inspirera tout ce qu'il convient de faire
en cet égard. Mais pour moi je crois qu'il
n'avait jamais l'esprit de la Communion et par
ceux nous rappeler que je vous ai parlé sur
sa compte avant mon départ de Paris, qu'il y
avait quelques soupçons contre lui et que j'étais
un peu inquiet la-dessus et en vérité je ne serai
pas mécontent, si vous jugez à propos de lui
envoyer sa dispense non est tempus, mais absolu-
ment. Avec M. T. J. Smith de Niagara je vais

donner quelques petites missions dans l'état de N. York
pendant le carême, commençant Dimanche prochain.
J'espère être au Bureau pour la semaine sainte. La nou-
velle triste m'est arrivée que le bon M. J. O'Reilly est très
malade à St. Louis et qu'il a déjà reçu les derniers sacrements.
J'espère que M. Hayden de St. Charles a été nommé évêque
de Galveston, je ne sais pas si c'est vrai. Pour le reste nous
sommes dans le même état. Les armées Fédérales ont gagné
des victoires importantes et ont repoussé les Confédérés
sur les Côtes Atlantiques et sur les rivières Cumberland et Ten-
nessee, j'espère que cela aura l'effet de nous donner la paix
bientôt, quoiqu'il faut avouer que je ne vais pas encore
la fin de nos misères. Au Printemps si les choses sont un peu
améliorées nous mettrons notre demeure permanente à St. Louis.
J'attend déjà longtemps une lettre de M. Maller sur plusieurs
choses sur lesquelles j'aurais adressé la conclusion je de-
mande encore M. et très honoré Père, votre benédiction, nous
prient très humblement d'agréer l'assurance de nos respects
et estime les plus parfaites et cordiales et sauvegardes
filiales avec laquelle je suis en union avec des S. S. Pères
de J. et Marie immaculée

Notre humble et obéissant fils et serviteur

M. M. J. B. Etienne Sup. Gen.

Ryan S. P. C. M.



Murphy, Ill.

St. Mary's Seminary,

Perryville, Perry Co. Mo.

April 5th 1862

Rev. dear Confere

Gratia D. v. sit semper nobiscum

I have just returned home after a protracted absence of three months, and I find that the enclosed sad announcement made in due time to the houses of the Province, has not yet been transmitted at least officially to head quarters. Please to have it sent as soon as possible to the different Provinces that our dear and much regretted Defunct Confere may not long be deprived of the prayers and holy sacrifices of the community of which he was a devoted and exemplary member. He is I believe the first member of the General Assembly called home from his labors. I will try to forward to Mr. Perboyre a short biographical notice of the deceased.

During my absence I visited our houses of
 Niagara, Germantown, Baltimore, Cum-
 burg and LaSalle, and gave three little
 missions at Germantown, Amira in the diocese
 of Buffalo, and St. Catharines C.W. in the dio-
 cese of Toronto. Mr. S. J. Smith of Niagara
 was with me at the two latter places. During
 this time I also received your two kind fa-
 vors dated respectively Jan^y 9th & 19th for which
 many thanks, we are indeed very sensible
 to the favor of augmenting our allocation
 from the Prop. of the Faith, the increase shall
 be devoted to the house of Niagara and
 before the close of the year an account
 of its disbursement rendered to you. Mr. Burke
 is anxiously looking for his accounts from
 the Prov. Gen. I am still looking for news from
 Mr. Hurault in relation to my indebtedness for books
 &c for which I promised to say ~~nothing~~ ^{nothing}. My sister
 Jeffery has the bills of the little things which she
 purchased for me last summer, I would like to
 have them, I paid her for all but I do not know
 the exact amount to charge to different houses.
 I spoke to Bishops Simon & Lyness in accordance
 with your answer, they are not pleased, the latter espe-
 cially is wrathful about the way he says he has been
 treated by the Prov. Gen. they are both going to Europe

after Carter and Bp. Simon will call to see you though it is very doubtful if the latter will. Bp. Dames insists on a note for three thousand dollars before settling the affairs of Germantown, two thousand being money given to him as a quasi loan and which he thinks he ought to return and one thousand money given to him personally, entirely personal, which he employed in building the church. I have written to him that I will become responsible to the parties should they claim the two thousand dollars and for his own claims I am willing to allow whatever St. Bp. Hennrich of Baltimore, Bp. Ward & Bp. Simon may think just and fair, but that all this is to be paid by the parish of Germantown and not by our community, though I will see to its payment as soon as he delivers all the documents and accounts into my hands. I purpose going to St. Louis with the students and Novices after Carter, unless something occurs to prevent it. I have called Mr. Rolando to St. Louis and sent my Brother William to Germantown, Mr. Knoud has replaced Mr. Laseo at Emmitsburg, and Mr. St. Ryan is in Lasalle, Mr. Robert Rice and Mr. Beasley I sent to Niagara. They are beginning to build at Niagara, it is a necessity if we wish to keep the college and I think Mr. Smith will succeed in collecting the necessary means, if we only help him to liquidate the heavy debt on the property, it is easy to collect when a building is in progress of erection, but it would be folly to ask any thing in full off an old standing debt. We will not further involve ourselves and with your generous help we will throw off the present heavy incubus, or at least diminish its oppressiveness. You might send Mr. J. J. Smith the patent of Superior of the house of Niagara, and Mr. St. Ryan, of Germantown. I think of leaving Mr. McPherson, who is now Prefect, here, Superior when we go to St. Louis, yet of this we will see afterwards. Mr. S. Massey is very sick in St. Louis, whether he was sent from the Cape, he has the consumption and the doctor says he cannot survive long, Mr. J. Dawby a young student.

nephew of the Visitor of Ireland, is very low with affliction of the lungs. Mr. Linal is still anxiously awaiting some news from the Sup. Gen. or his Visitor, wishing to go to Spain or Mexico; he wishes me to give him means to defray his expenses or allow him to beg among the Priests and people, I will do neither. Bro. Carthei is starting for Spain on strength of a permission received from Sup. Gen. through you. I must say I doubt the expediency of giving such permission without consulting immediately superiors or at least giving it through them. He has been begging and raffling matches and disposing of things and making all his arrangements without his Superior's knowledge and when really told him he was going, and for several days went out and came in as he pleased. I hope he will do well in Spain but I would not wish him to return to America. Mr. Linal I fear will get in a similar manner and has actually made some attempts at raising money among the Priests of St. Louis, whether I let him go for his health, he is now quite well, but will not study English. I wrote of Mr. Linal's case to the Sup. General, he left something shortly after my recent visit and applied to some Bishop for a mission, indeed to tell the truth I was not sorry to see him go, for he never had the right spirit. I will endeavor to organize the Council in St. Louis and write to the Sup. Gen. it is impossible being any one from the South or have any communication with the Confess there a Conventor must be appointed in Mr. O'Reilly's place, I will be happy to have any one the Sup. may appoint, though I would prefer you to come and take his or my place. The war is not yet at an end and the feeling is more hostile and sometimes than ever, the North is pressing the South hard, but yet no sign of surrender or reconciliation, and the tables may turn again, summer and warm weather are coming on but something decisive is soon done, the campaign must lie over for another year, or the North must take the offensive and perhaps the South will assume the offensive. Some hard engagements must be fought soon and I hope they will decide something. I think I shall send some students to you this spring, perhaps very shortly. I have today for the first time opened the box containing the rich beautiful shawl which Sister Duffey gave me, all are delighted with it and only regret we have not the Dalmatians for next Easter Sunday. Please to recommend me to your sister Duffey and the most kind brother and the other esteemed sisters at the mother house. My profound respects and affectionate regards to our most honored Father, a kind and brotherly remembrance to all the cherished Confess at the maison there and for yourself, even Mr. Malley, he pleased to accept the expression of my fervent affection and regard from a devoted and unworthy Confess.

John W. W.

St. Vincent's Church, St. Louis, Mo.

May 17th 1862

Rev. dear Sir & family

Gratia D. V. et semper nobiscum

The enclosed will be handed to you by a good young Confess from America, Mr. James Duncan, whom I send across the ocean principally for his health, with the advice of physicians and Confess in hopes that the voyage and change of air may serve to our Province a valuable and most excellent young Confess. By his side doubtless you see two others more robust and vigorous, these too are excellent young Confesses, James M. & Maria and John Lamy, who have just finished their course of Philosophy and have come to Paris to pursue their studies, to be formed to science and the true spirit of their holy vocation at the mother house in the midst of the ancients and under the immediate direction of the honored successor

of our holy Father & Founder, St. Vincent. I need not tell you that they have been selected with care and by their talents and good dispositions they are capable of receiving a solid thorough and superior training both in piety and ecclesiastical learning, we value them highly and the Province looks forward hopefully to their future and hence without counting the cost affords them the present, prized advantages at the Mother house. Mr. Deanean I do not send to study at Paris, he is young and has already nearly completed his course of Theology, gifted with rare qualities of mind & heart as simple and candid as a child, pure as an angel, most amiable and talented, he will be a treasure for as if God spares him, but I have almost concluded that he is too good and pure for earth. His lungs are slightly affected and about two years ago he had a severe hemorrhage of the lungs which brought him to death's door. Winter before last I sent him to N. Orleans where he partially recovered and last Winter he should have been there also, were it not the dis-

pleasures of the country. Now my wish is
 that he may spend a year or two in the
 warm and mild climate of Italy and as Mr.
 Titorelli' Director of Rome told me he would
 have no objections to have one of our stu-
 dents in the house of Monte Citorio or
 in Plaisance, where they have several free
 places, I write to the Superior General to allow
 him and by a little note authorize him to
 proceed on to Italy. I beg you to unite
 your influence if needed to my request, for
 I would not otherwise send Mr. Duncan, for
 Paris is not the climate for him and if he
 is not permitted to proceed to spend some
 time in a warm and more genial climate
 I beg you to send him back to us before the
 beginning of Winter. Of course we will defray
 his expenses in the foreign land and he will
 have with him enough to pay his fare to
 Rome and something left. If he be allowed
 to proceed, please dear Mr. Moller to suggest
 his passage and direct him in his journey.

These young men will inform you as the heading of this letter may lead you to suspect that we have finally executed our proposed movement transferring the central house of the Province from the Barrens to St. Louis, from your letter to Mr. Dwigly I see you have your misgivings as to its expediency and results. Well, my dear Confere, I have had my own, yet it is not a step taken rashly, precipitately or unadvisedly, it has the well nigh unanimous approval of the Province and of our most honored Bishops, it has been facilitated and I may say brought about by circumstances and I cannot but look upon it as the will of Heaven. It cost much to sever the ties of affectionate attachment and hallowed recollections that bound us to the old homestead, the cradle and nursery of our community in this country, the final step was long deferred. I at least and I believe the others had no human views, we leave the issue to God and hope and pray no action of ours may prejudice his holy work, or be detrimental to our little congregation. Mr. Rolando is now here, the only consultant of the Province with me, former and lamented Mr. O'Reilly is no more, Mr. Lavigne whom we designed as Professor of Theology and consultant is still unaccountable in Dixie Land. Our house is however pretty well organized as follows, (Mr. Rolando is Assistant and administrator, Mr. Dwigly is Assistant and Director of provinces, Mr. Burke Provincial and domestic Procurator, Mr. Hanes acting Pastor of the Church, these with the Superior form the Council of the house which is held regularly every week, besides these we have Mr. Whelan General Pastor, Mr. O'Leary Professor of Theology, Mr. Lonsky Professor of Philosophy and Mr. O'Neil. I have been reflecting but cannot determine to whom to recommend

to the vacancy occasioned by the demise of good Mr. O'Reilly, if the Sup. Gen. chooses to appoint any one, I will be satisfied with his selection. Mr. Stokan is doing very well as Professor and I hope he will be left with us, he is happy and content and exemplary and in my humble opinion better adapted to his present duties than for the discharge of ministerial duties. Mr. Pamel seems more resigned in the hope no doubt of being speedily recalled to Mexico. At the Barracks I left Mr. McManamy acting Superior and I believe he will succeed there as still eight Priests there and I hope the Little Seminary will still prosper. The Colonel commanding at Cape Girardeau asked the use of the College or a part of it for hospital purposes, they respectfully remonstrated offering at the same time the use of a couple of frame buildings belonging to us in the town, he seemed satisfied and hope will not trouble us further. Should they however insist on the temporary occupation

of the College, & maybe the case, especially in
 the event of another fearful engagement, which
 is believed to be imminent at Corinth and in
 which thousands may be killed and wounded, we
 have made arrangements in order not to scatter
 the Students, to accommodate them temporarily
 at the Banens. At Niagara they are vying for
 ward a new building, thanks to the generous con-
 tribution of the Propagation of the Faith and
 the great collecting powers of Mr. H. Smith.
 On the eve of leaving the Banens I received your
 kind favor of April 1st for which as for
 other favors please to receive my sincerest
 thanks. These dispensations asked for by the
 young Confessors Mrs. Mackay, Shaw &c. I consider
 no way necessary, and when they get ^{them} directly from
 higher Superiors and without dependence on local
 authorities, they put their own interpretation
 on them and use them accordingly. I am in some
 sense sorry that the decree was passed, for the
 multiplication of decrees easily broken and disobeyed
 tends in my mind to bring discredit on General
 Assemblies and open the door to disregard of an

prohibitions, and this in many ways
 may work evil. You probably will have an
 opportunity of seeing some of our grand
 Conferences now Lord Bishops on their way to
 the eternal city, three of them left together
 Bishops Simon, Lynch & Domenee. About Mr.
 Heyden's removal promotion I can say nothing
 though I doubt it, still soon I hope we will
 be able once more to correspond with our
 Conferences in the South. New Orleans is some
 time in possession of the federal forces and soon
 they seem to think the navigation of the
 Father of waters will be free again; but the
 end is not yet, they will have a long
 and terrible struggle yet. God and his blessed
 Mother protect us and bring a speedy termination
 to the sufferings and calamities of our country.
 What a wonderful man that Napoleon III is,
 rumor says he is going to dabble even in American
 affairs of state, le venue de son oncle, vraiment.
 How times are changed; the proud American boast
 that no foreign power dare interfere on this side
 the Atlantic, is then idle vaunting. Ah! the mis-

Chiefs of dissension and civil discord. But I am myself treading on secure and slippery ground.

You make me smile when you intimate your apprehensions of my being dazzled by a certain glitter. Let me allay all your apprehensions, that glitter has no attractions for me, and that argument has no cogency. If I had no other motive gratifiable should bind me irrevocably to the family of St. Vincent, all I have and all I am under God I owe to the little congregation and why should I not then be heart and soul and forever attached to her and hers. I am wholly unfit for the position I hold and how could I dare ambition preferment? But But tranquillize yourself dear Constance on that score I believe our good Bishops have too much sense and judgment to give me a chance of proving my attachment to the community, by the rejection of glittering honors. I have again placed Mr. B. Keefe Procurator at the Cape, (Mr. McCarthy, though a good confessor and very competent, active Procurator was giving dissatisfaction to Confessors and Students by his rough manner and rather arbitrary character. I once thought and I believe wrote to you about sending Mr. Benket-Whithers, but I could not now especially since Mr. O'Reilly's death disfigure with his services here he is a great man here in the city, and wears a long grey beard and is known in all the Hospitals where he is a general favorite especially with the military men. In fact he does much good among them, baptizing many, distributing books and instructing in our holy faith. The city is filled with sick and wounded soldiers and as the heat of summer increases and the army advances Southward the mortality considerably increases. God help the poor creatures! Now I suppose I have exhausted your patience and I have nearly filled the second sheet so I must conclude, requesting you to remember me affectionately and respectfully to all my cherished friends and kind dear Confessors of the Maison Dieu, and begging you to exercise a paternal care towards les jeunes Americains and initiate them to all the mysteries of French etiquette and hoping you continue to remember my poor soul at the holy altar and before sacred shrine of St. Vincent, my blessed Father. I beg you to believe in the SS. Hearts of Jesus & Mary immaculate your loving friend & devoted servant

Rev. M. Muller C.M.

St. Ignace I.P.M.

Consult. De la Soc. M^{re}. Roberts 2^e Burland
 Quigley - Burke proc. et le Consultant
 Dat. à M^{re} Menary

Eglise St. Vincent, St. Louis, Mo.

le 17 Mai 1862

Monsieur et très honoré Père

notre benediction sil vous plaît.

Trois de nos jeunes gens, vos enfants
 d'Amérique viennent de présenter à
 vos pieds, nous offrir leur hommages et
 nous adresser de l'estime cordiale et son
 mission filiale avec lesquelles vos enfants
 américains nous regardent comme suc-
 cesseur de notre bienheureux Père St. Vincent.
 Ils sont trois jeunes hommes de grande
 espérance pour notre Province. Deux sont
 près à commencer leur cours de Théologie
 et à la maison mère je suis convaincu
 qu'ils auront toute facilité pour la science
 et pour la vertu, pour acquiescer surtout
 à la vraie saine l'aspirant de leur état.
 Le troisième est un jeune homme, Jacques
 Duncan, que j'envoie principalement à cause
 de sa santé, un jeune ^{compagnon} que j'estime pour

ses belles qualités d'esprit et de cœur,
sera un trésor pour la Province, si le
bon Dieu nous le laisse. Mais le climat
de Paris ne lui conviendrait pas et comme
sa poitrine est faible il ne pourrait pas
soutenir les rigueurs d'un hiver à Paris.

Comme M^r Stardi Visiteur de Rome me
dit qu'il n'aurait point d'objection d'avoir
un étudiant Américain ou à Rome ou à
Raisance, si notre très honoré Père, le
voulait, je vous ^{puis} le laisser M. Deussen
passer en Italie pour une année et
j'espère que le climat doux et tempéré
le rétablira. Je sais, M^r et très honoré Père
notre objection qu'il respicra et peut-être
^{sera} ~~embue~~ d'un esprit tant soit peu gâté, mais
pour lui il n'y a pas danger et après
un hiver passé en Italie il pourra rester
~~l'été~~ ^{l'été} suivante à la maison mère, pour
s'instruire et se former, et être édifié
par nos bons Confères de votre communauté
édifiante. Je dois aussi, mon très honoré Père
vous informer que nous avons enfin transféré
notre maison centrale à St. Louis au nous
sommes depuis le commencement de ce mois

Le premier de Mai nous sommes partis du
 Berens, quatre Prêtres, douze étudiants et
 huit Séminaristes et maintenant nous voilà
 établis assez commodément ici, où j'espère
 que le bon Dieu nous bénira, et où autant
 que dans mon pouvoir, j'y tiendrai main
 à la régularité et l'observance de règles et
 de l'esprit primitif de la petite compagnie.
 Mais que c'est que j'ai dit, comment pourrai-je
 donner aux autres, ce que je n'ai pas moi-même.
 Oh! M. et P. est estimé s'il y avait ici un vicaire
 Ten capable et rempli de l'esprit de S.
 Vincent il pourrait bien faire quelque chose.
 Mais moi misérable, je ne puis que gêner l'œuvre
 de Dieu. Mais me voici, j'y reste à vos
 ordres, seulement je suis en simplicité et
 sincérité de cœur que j'ai mis l'autre fait
 incapable et dépourvu de qualités propres
 à l'office que j'ai le nom de remplir.
 M. Rolando est ici, et il est le seul Con-
 sulteur de la province avec moi, M. Mc Gill
 est au Cap, M. Lavigne encore à Nouvelle
 Orléans et notre bien regretté M. O'Reilly
 n'est plus. Je vous dirai les membres du
 Conseil domestique et si j'en juge à propos

de désigner quelqu'un pour le conseil Provincial, je serai content. M. Rolando 1^{er} assistant, M. Digby 2^e assistant et Directeur du Séminaire interne, M. Burke Procureur de la Province et de la maison, M. Hensy chargé de la Paroisse, ces-ci forment notre conseil domestique, qui se tient régulièrement toute la semaine. Outre ceux il y a ici M. Uhlend pour les Allemands de la Paroisse, M. Stahau Professeur de Théologie, M. Landy Professeur de Philosophie, et M. Pénol.

Au Bonnes j'ai laissé M. Mc Menamy vicaire Supérieur du petit Séminaire, où il y a encore huit Prêtres et grâce à Dieu, tout marche assez bien. L'autorité militaire nous a demandé le collège du Cap pour hôpital mais on a cédé à nos remontrances, et j'espère qu'on nous laissera tranquille, si on persiste. Ce sera seulement pour un temps, et nous transférons les étudiants du Cap au Bonnes pendant l'occupation du Collège. Nos jeunes gens peuvent nous donner, M. et très honoré Père, plus de détails sur notre situation et notre pays qui est toujours en proie à la guerre civile. J'espère qu'on nous laissera M. Stahau, qui fait très bien comme Professeur de Théologie, et il est plus adapté pour cela que pour l'exercice du ministère, il est aussi bon confesseur, ecclésiastique et content ici. Permettez moi, Monsieur et très honoré Père, de vous exprimer en concluant les sentiments sincères d'affection et respect et soumission profonde avec lesquels j'ai l'honneur d'être unie avec les S.^s Coeurs de Jesus et Marie immaculée
votre très humble serviteur et élève J.
Wogan S.P.M.

St. Vincent's Church, St. Louis, Mo.

Aug. 9th 1862

Rev. very dear Conference

Gratia D. N. sit semper nobiscum

Your very welcome favor began May 11th and finished June 11th. I received a couple of weeks ^{ago} at Germantown whither it had been forwarded to me, and I need not say that I perused its contents with considerable interest and gratification. Since then I have received letters from our three young men full of interesting details. I hope they will enjoy good health, give you all satisfaction, profit by the precious opportunities afforded them and realize hopes and expectations of us all for the benefit of our community and province. I should have answered you sooner, ~~but~~ I not been detained in Buffalo by a slight attack of illness which confined me to my bed for ten or twelve days, I only reached home on last Tuesday, and thanks be to God, I am now pretty well, though not very strong. Mr. Pinal has already informed

you that he accepts your proposal of going to
 Havana, and he is most anxious to depart as soon
 as may be. Mr. & Habana probably will also prefer
 to go thither, I told him to write and make
 known to you his mind. I would like to see
 him remain, though not against his will.
 I was much surprised at Germantown to find
 Dr. Canby in the house before me. He had been
 travelling around the country and had just returned
 from Havana. I told him very plainly that as
 he was roaming about as he pleased, collecting
 and spending money without the authorization
 of Superiors I would not regard him as a Brother
 or allow him to remain in any of our houses.
 He showed signs of repentance and I told him
 that if he would fulfil the duties of a good obe-
 dient Brother, I would let him remain at Ger-
 mantown, where he could cook for the small
 community and enable us to dispense with the
 services of a hired woman. He seemed satisfied
 with this arrangement and said he would write
 to you. The application of our Bishops for recognition
 is not a secret here any more than with you, for our
 young men have written of it, saying even that

the Holy See disapproves of refusing the suffrages
 to those who had labored long in the community.
 Please to let me know if there be anything official
 in regard to this. I will be prudent with Bishop
 Domenic, but I will not accede to his unreasonable
 demands. He can do nothing the property is not in his
 name, I must only manage to get our names on the head
 of Trustees and gradually get the whole control. Those
 \$2000.. were given to the church, not loaned and only
 on certain possible contingencies we might in charity
 or perhaps in justice be bound to refund, this I offer
 to make myself responsible for to the person, but not
 to give Bishop D. an unconditional note for the amount.
 That dispensation from Rome of the last decree
 of the S.C. of reform I scarcely understand, though
 I suppose it refers to a decree approved by P. IX for
 bidding religious communities to admit to the novitiate
 or profession any one without testimonial letters from
 his Bishop. In any case it is only a prolongation for
 two years of a dispensation enjoyed without our
 knowledge for the last three, but which we have
 always used, never asking any Bishops letters or
 authorization except when postulants were under
 some obligations to them. I was much astonished

to see that you reject from the number of Provincial
 Consultants Mr. Mr. Gill, who had lately been appointed by
 the Sup. Gen. and announced to the Province as such,
 who is so near the visitor and may be consulted fre-
 quently and is moreover one of those in whose judg-
 ment and advice and good spirit the visitor confides most,
 and put again Mr. Burdette after I told him and the
 others that the Sup. Gen. appointed another to fill his
 place, because he could scarcely ever be consulted
 and never with much profit as he usually answers that
 knows nothing about the members of the community.
 Indeed to me he seems very little interested in the com-
 munity, being wholly and exclusively engrossed with the
 Sisters of Charity, and does not even as it appears to me
 care about the community directing them or acquiring
 any influence with them. This I say only to yourself
 for I do not wish to make any complaints or meddle
 in his affairs. He is a very sensible and experienced man
 and his opinion on matters I value much and if you are
 desirous of having him consultant I will not be by any means
 disappointed, but I would suggest not to reject Mr. Gill
 without cause Mr. Mr. Gill but rather put Mr. Burdette
 in place of either Mr. Gingley or Mr. Burke. However do
 as you deem proper in this regard, still I will not make
 known to the Province who are the consultants until
 I hear from you again. Next week we will try to ar-
 range matters for the coming year, and make the changes that
 may be necessary in the different houses. Before receiving
 your letter I had told Mr. Mr. Gill to meet us here for
 Consultation on this matter. In Sept. or Oct. I will write
 to you a statement of the condition, personnel &c. of our
 houses as accurate as I can. The new house at Niagara
 is going up rapidly and will be a great and much needed
 improvement. Our country is still the sad theatre of desolating
 fratricidal warfare, Missouri is all in a blaze, swarming
 with quiver brands, poor St. Louis sits upon the father of
 wretches forlorn and downcast, shorn of much of its beauty, but
 weated and her people, looking with more fearful foreboding
 into a perhaps not distant future. Yet thank God we have
 no reason to complain, but trust in our God and leave
 the future in his hands, "sufficit illi motus ipse." Mr. Burke
 had received Mr. Sawyer's despatches with Mr. Bennett's list of my
 commissions, I will look over the latter as soon as I can.
 Mr. Masson, nephew of the visitor of Mexico is in the last
 stage of consumption and cannot long survive, also one of our
 students, nephew of the visitor of Ireland, Mr. Dowley. For the
 rest are all tolerably well. Please to present my most profound regard
 and expressions of respectful submission to our Mother and a respectful
 and affectionate remembrance to all the Sisters and for yourself the love
 respect and attachment of a devoted servant, Confess. L. J. G. A. P. M.

St. Vincent's Church, St. Louis, Mo.
 Sep. 4th 1862

Rev. and very dear Confere

Gratia D. V. sit semper nobiscum

With deep regret I have to announce to you and through you to all the community that our Province has sustained another loss in the death of Rev. Stephen Masnou deceased here in St. Louis on the 2^d inst. in the 27th year of his age and 8th of pocation. He was attacked at the Cape by a severe cold and soon was hopelessly gone in consumption. I had him brought up here for better medical treatment, but he was ripe for Heaven and the great Master called him away. How happy was his death, God grant us all a similar end. Perfectly conscious to the last, resigned & cheerful, asking pardon for the faults, which he might have committed in the community he was in a transport of delight at the thought

of dying a member of the Congregation.
 We finished our annual Retreat on the evening of the 11th inst. and today we resumed our regular classes. At the Retreat several Priests of neighboring houses were present and all were good and edifying and all except myself profited by it. I was as usual negligent and distracted and had to be preaching to others, what I had never learned to practise. When last in LaSalle I had told Mr. J. F. Ryan to come down to our Retreat and you may imagine my surprise at receiving shortly afterwards the dispensation of his powers without any intimation either from himself or from Paris that he had ever applied for it. The consultants were no less surprised than myself that the young man was informed that his petition was granted and his dispensation executed before the Visitor had the remotest intimation that there was question of such a thing. I feel satisfied to be relieved from all responsibility in matters of this kind, but I think you need not be

astonished at receiving similar applications
 when poor human nature in moments of temp-
 tation or dejection finds it so easy a matter
 to throw off the restraints of community life.
 I do not in the least regret his defection, it is rather
 a gain for the community, and there may be one
 or two more of the same school, received as
 he was and subjected to the same influences, who
 if they do not follow his steps, will never
 edify nor strengthen us much. Yet it may
 be my fault and if the authorities *a la maison*
 mine, share the sentiments of disaffected subjects,
 oh! let them at once apply an easy remedy, by
 allowing me to retire to private life, putting me
 again where I may learn to obey, instead of having
 to command. I am looking for a letter from
 you and so are Mm. Mahan & Pinol, the
 former I have appointed to teach our Moral
 Theology class, the latter is almost sick to be
 away, the former, I would like to keep, the
 latter I must try and send to some other house
 awaiting the answer. From Paris as he imagines
 this climate unpropitious to him. Several

Changes in our houses will be needed, I will send you the personal of each soon. The Cape has opened as usual except by special request of the Arch Bishop owing to the altered circumstances of the country the pension has been lowered to \$100. per annum. The Bonens will have a more numerous school than last year and so will Niagara. Please to tell Mr. Hurault that he has charged me with a dog, Catharine du conseil de Trent, which I neither ordered nor recd. 21. 15. also Hermine de la croix ordered but not yet recd. also Catharine Comenick not recd. Tell him also to please to subscribe for the "Miroir" for another year and put it on the Province acct. and I will give the amount to Mr. Burke.

We are all well, thanks be to God, tolerably well and have every reason to be thankful to almighty God for the blessings we enjoy, but our poor country is still sadly desolated. The South is making a desperate effort and how far successful I cannot say, reports are full of trouble, battles and hand slaughter, thousands fall on both sides, and millions worth of property destroyed. Newspapers report Federal reverses and Washington almost besieged. Who can foresee the end?

I wish you would also tell Mr. Hurault that there are very many mistakes in binding and in printing in the Breviaries we got last, some are no use at all.

Please to remember us affectionately to our young men tell them we are all well, and hope the Lord blessing for them. All our students are now together Mr. Gherghue being recalled from Niagara. We have no moral Philosophy this year, some of last year's Philosophy and all the Rhetoricians I supply this year with Mathematics, Nat. Philosophy, Alg., Physics, Latin, Greek, German & French.

Please to present my kindest regards to all the esteemed members of the Maison-mère and to our most beloved Sister the sincere expression of filial submission and affection and for yourself believe me, very dear Mr. Hurault with all sincerity your humble servant & affectionately.

Charles Couillard

L. G. on 11. 18. 1862



Mr. James Deane C.M.
St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Oct. 22^d. 1862

My very dear Confess

Gratia D. v. sit semper nobiscum

Your very interesting letter of Sept. 6th was handed to me only a few days ago on my return from a mission which Mr. Henry & myself gave in Galena Ill. it were superfluous to say that I perused it with unmingled pleasure, the news was so good and interesting. But are you not ashamed to be guilty of so much flattery? Do you not fear that I will grow proud? Did your vessel anchor long at Duckstation harbor? one would imagine that you had taken a run across the country to Blenny castle and carried off a goodly portion of that famous Stone. I suppose we must ascribe all the goodness you seem to see in others to your own kind & loving little heart. Only turn that love to God, my dear child, and love him in return for the blessings he bestows, and the goodness he receives either directly or through his creatures. God only is good, He only deserving of praise. However I will peruse

you now, by writing short letters for the future. In fact I have but little news to communicate, we are all well, thanks be to God, and in statu quo. This is Wednesday and I hear Mr. Dyer & Mr. Snow singing away up stairs as cheerily and void of care as ever. Students services are well & happy. Philip Landry is the last received into the Novitiate, the child since vacations. Mr. Dringley I sent for a couple of weeks on the mission with Mr. Henesy. When he returns I go again with three Confessors to give a mission of three weeks in Chicago. You must not tell our European friends how we are obliged to put our hands to every work and make every shift to carry on the good work, they can scarcely understand our position and will be most liable to condemn us

and censure our conduct. No better news about our national troubles, bloody fighting, alternate victory and defeat, advance & retreat, nothing decisive, no to me fresh glimmer of peace or returning reason. We are however undisturbed. Priests and Students require papers or certificates of exemption from military duty otherwise they are liable to arrest in any part of the city. Communication is open to Orleans by N.Y. I have not heard from Confessors there, all well. Mr. Allan is leaving us for Kansas. If that good German Confessor could come just now he would aid poor Mr. Wheland here who much needs an assistant. Take care of yourself during the winter. I ever and gratefully remember Mr. Berghago please to give him my respects also Mr. Guisani if with you. Please to remember me to all the Confessors of the mountains and if you go to Monte Otavio to those of that respected community. Love most sincere to your two companions. Write to Mr. Leger lately. All wish to be remembered to you, the Sisters too are glad of your improving health. Pray for your devoted friends.

J. P. M.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Oct 25th 1862

Rev. and very dear Confere
 Gratia Vobis sit, semper vobis
 Your kind and welcome favor of
 the 25th Sept^r. I received a few days ago
 with that unfeigned satisfaction, which missions
 from the Maison-Mère never fail to give. I fear
 however mine to you are not equally welcome
 and satisfactory, I ^{am} ^{so} hard to be pleased and inclined
 to faultfinding and so free in my expressions, I hope
 however from your charity that you will pardon
 me, and from your knowledge of myself and our
 Province that you will understand me and my
 motives. As soon as your letter came to hand I
 informed M^r. Rolando that the Sup. Gen. had granted
 his request of leaving the house of St. Louis and that
 he was free to follow his desires and that the house
 of Carmelburg was the only one where he could be with
 Italian Conferes, I also informed the Council of the
 Province that M^r. Rolando had obtained permission
 from Paris to change his residence. This mode of

procedure is not in perfect keeping with your
 instructions, nor was it wished by Mr. Rolando
 who seems not to like to have it known that he
 asked for a change. But I could not change
 him as coming from myself without acting a double
 part, for it is not my doing, nor would I do it of
 my own accord. Besides I had officially announced
 to all the houses that in accordance with the will
 of the Sup. Gen. and my own earnest desire Mr. Rolando
 as first consultant of the Province was now living with
 the Visitor and that the others would soon be named,
 I thought I owed it then to myself and to the Prov-
 ince to let the Prov. Consultants at least know that
 this sudden change in direct contradiction to my
 publicly expressed and real views did not come from
 my own fickle and arbitrary will. I put no obsta-
 cle in Mr. Rolando's way, but told him that as ^{he} had per-
 mission from higher authority, I had no right to inter-
 fere and that he was perfectly free to go whenever
 he pleased. He does not however seem in a hurry to go
 either because I do not send him or because he is now
 better pleased with his duties here; he will probably write
 to you and you may do whatever your better judgment

procedure is not in perfect keeping with your
 instructions, nor was it wished by Mr. Rolando
 who seems not to like to have it known that he
 asked for a change. But I could not change
 him as coming from myself without acting a double
 part, for it is not my doing, nor would I do it of
 my own accord. Besides I had officially announced
 to all the houses that in accordance with the will
 of the Sup. Gen. and my own earnest desire Mr. Rolando
 as first Consultant of the Province was now living with
 the Visitor and that the others would soon be named,
 I thought I owed it then to myself and to the Prov-
 ince to let the Prov. Consultants at least know that
 this sudden change in direct contradiction to my
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 he pleased. He does not however seem in a hurry to go
 either because I do not send him or because he is now
 better pleased with his duties here; he will probably write
 to you and you may do whatever your better judgment

deems proper, we can do without him, yet I think he is as much in his place here as he could be in any other house of the Province. Mr. Pinal has been since our annual retreat in Baltimore or Cincinnati, he was so fidgetty and uneasy, fearing to get sick here that I let him go to await your orders there, I forwarded to him your note, Mr. Hoban will leave here on the 5th of next month and from N. York they will sail together to Havana. I am sorry to lose Mr. Hoban and know not whom to appoint to profess Theology. I have written to N. Orleans for Mr. Lavigne, communication is now open to N.O. by N. York and I hope nothing will prevent Mr. Lavigne from soon reaching us.

The Conferes are all well in La, and they complain of not hearing from Paris. There are some little miseries there as everywhere else and I do volunteer I will pay them a visit this coming Winter. Donaldsonville was shelled by the Federal gunboats and the church slightly damaged. I have just written to Bishop Lynch that though most willing to accede to the wishes of our most H. F. and his Lordships request, yet I do not see how I can because

firstly, I know nothing of the nature, design, requirements
 of the projected establishment, and secondly all our
 available forces at present are needed to defend, ^{and}
 man and effectively maintain the parts we now hold,
 and that some of our houses are not completely on
 edge for lack of efficient and experienced subjects,
 needed for offices of trust and responsibility in a
 community. But that our abnormal condition
 was wearing away and the future was hopeful and
 when we could, without endangering or enfeebling
 our present base of operation, extend our lines
 no where would I like better to see our Commu-
 nity established than in his Lordship's diocese,
 your own native land. As to Mr. A. J. Ryan's exodus
 I am in no way displeased with it and I entirely coincide
 with your views in regard to all likely to be influenced
 by his example. I only advert to the irregular man-
 ner in which I thought the whole affair was conducted.
 All sensible Confessors know that we are better without
 him than with him. I have not yet seen Bishop Don-
 nee, he passed through Germantown on his return, said
 he would insist on his demands, spoke of the intol-
 erance of Paris &c. I will see him most probably this
 winter and attempt a final arrangement. Bishop Li-
 mon is always friendly and extremely kind and favorable
 to us, he spoke to me of the difficulties and seemed
 to regret them very much, indeed as far as he is concerned
 I too regret that you could not favor him. I rejoice
 to hear such good news from our young men in Paris
 I trust they will continue to enjoy good health and give
 edification and satisfaction to all. Please to have a
 fatherly care of them, and direct their studies or
^{other} activities in their employment of their time and facilities
 for improvement. I wish them to become sound
 theologians, and develop and cultivate their natural
 talents. That is for Mm. Wilmars & Laney. For Mr. Duncan my
 wish is to let him spend the Winter in Rome or some warm
 southern climate, return to Paris on the approach of the
 hot, sultry, sickly season, remain at the Mother house get-
 ting all the insight he can into men & things, and upon re-
 turn home to us here. Strong and healthy, enlightened
 devoted & faithful, next Autumn. I enclose a little note here
 for him. I will write this week to O. M. W. in English, the personal
 and brief notice of the different houses, in R. H. Harts of 1, 1891.
 Your devoted Confessor J. Ryan S. J.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Decr. 8th 1862

Rev. & dear Confere

Gratia D. & sit semper nobiscum

Since writing my last I am happy to inform you that we gave a very successful and consoling mission in Chicago. We were four missionaries, Mr. Henesy of this house, Mr. J. Smith of Niagara and Mr. Snyder of LaSalle with your humble servant and for three long weeks from early morning until late at night we were busy in the confessional and many were the returns to God in true contrition and sorrow of soul which we witnessed. The good Bishop was with us on the last day, confirmed over seventy adults and gave the papal benediction after the closing sermon on the last night. I have some very welcome news to announce

poor Brother Janbalone whom you may
 remember here in St. Louis, went off
 from us clandestinely a couple of weeks ago.
 I had strictly forbidden him to go out of
 the house without special permission
 as I discovered that he frequently left the
 house and sometimes at night. He did not
 relish my prohibition and managed to
 take away his trunk and some other
 articles one night whilst we were at
 supper. I saw him since and knowing
 that he was always weak-minded I offered
 to send him to the Barrens if he wished
 to return and live as a Brother and even
 gave him a letter to the Superior, but
 he left my letter behind him when
 going out and I have heard nothing of
 him since. Enclosed I send you a copy
 of a translation of the short notice of the
 Association for the souls in Purgatory. Please
 to shew it to Mr. Marty and tell him
 we have established it here and recommen-
 ded it to the other houses. We have after

consultation put the contribution for yearly
 members at \$1.00. and perpetual foundation
 for the living at \$50.00... for the dead at \$25.
 This is about in proportion to our Stipend
 for maps. Please to tell him to put down
 Mrs. James McManamy deceased as a per-
 petual foundation for the dead, the sum
 specified above I have received. & to get
 only a dozen members have given in their
 names and paid the yearly contribution.
 Let him advise me as to the disposition
 to be made of the money received. Ten dol-
 lars have been paid for printing two
 thousand copies of the enclosed. Mr. Lavigne
 has come up from N. Orleans and has now
 charge of our theology class in lieu of
 Mr. Mahan, who has gone to Havana. Mr.
 Verina is greatly in need of help and I have
 taken Mr. Lavigne from him and Mr. Cannon
 is very ill. I will try and go down to see
 them next month and if possible take
 some one with me, though the voyage is
 long and expensive, it costs \$100.00 from

N. York to N. Orleans and takes ten or eleven
 days. My Brother W^m is very unwell and
 has been obliged to give his post up, a nervous
 attack, inclining him to sleep, melancholy
 and unfitting him for every thing. It is he says
 a relapse into what he had when a student
 in Paris, he is temporarily with Mr. Gristine
 and I will probably be obliged to relieve
 him of his charge at Germantown and ap-
 point a successor. I have received a package
 of books from Paris via Albany N.Y. Various
 works and two dozen Hermeneutica sacra.
 I have also received the orlos for next year
 but only about half enough unless they
 have been also sent to some other houses.
 I am just leaving to pay a short visit to
 the Barrens and Cape Girardeau and
 on my return shall go to Germantown
 & Baltimore. Please to present my kindest
 regards and assurances of submission & esteem
 to our most honored Father, remember me
 affectionately and respectfully to all the
 good Confessors of the Mission here, and
 accept for yourself the sincere expression
 of unfeigned attachment and regard from
 your hum. & devoted Confessor

Wm. S. P. C. M.

Rev. M. Waller C. M.

St. Joseph's Church, New Orleans
March 23rd 1863

Very Respected Conference

Gratia D. v. sit semper nobiscum

At length I have managed to
pay a visit to our Conference in the South
and very opportunely or providentially too for
morning, the Bishop has just arrived and
a large cargo of recruits for this diocese and
Galveston are expected daily. The Seminary here
will be pretty full and of course we must try
to receive them especially as Monsig. tells me that
it is the wish of our most honored father that
I afford him all the help necessary for the Sem-
inary. We will do what we can and I will write
to you afterwards the arrangements made. I find
myself obliged to send Mr. Jaquez North and
I will also state his case to you on another
occasion. Mr. Smith of Niagara has come down
here by the advice of Bishop Timon and others
to get rid of a very ugly cough that seemed to
indicate consumption and also to try and col-
lect funds for the Sem. of Niagara. I will
I think detain him here for awhile at the
Sem^y. The news I receive from the Seminary
at the Cape is not consoling, several Seminarians
have been dismissed and others leave left.
Some change in the house is necessary I will
see to it on my return. Mr. Roland seems
still of the same unsatisfied and discontented mind.
Bishop Amat writes to know when we could
give him some Conference for the education of the
Sisters and to begin a little Seminary. Would it
be the wish of the Sup. Gen. to found a house
there if we could spare two or three Con-
ferences? I have brought Mr. Rubin to the Sem-
inary, here leaving only two at Donaldsonville

Poor Donaldson was nearly entirely dis-
 missed by the Federal generals, in retaliation
 for Guerrillas firing on their transports, two
 Priests are sufficient I think at present
 though Mr. Rushing was not at all pleased by
 Mr. Reile's removal. The missions to the
 plantations for the poor negroes are now
 of necessity broken up, large numbers of them
 have left their masters, the planters along
 the coast have suffered much. Please to
 send the enclosed to Mr. Duncan in Rome.
 My intention was that he should come back to
 Paris when the weather becomes warm in Rome
 spend St. Vincent's day at the maison here and
 return to us immediately afterwards. This is still
 my wish unless you see some difficulty in it.
 Give also if you please my kindest regards to
 Ingers. Mr. Ramona & Lamey. My profound respects
 to our M. H. Father and respectful remembrance to
 all the dear Congregations of Paris. Mr. Clומר
 down here is languishing with little hopes of
 recovery another victim to the fell destructive
 consumption. The rest are well and in gen-
 eral doing well, regular and exemplary, some
 human miseries we will always find.
 Now dear Congregation excuse my hasty scribble
 I have just finished a sketch for the Sisters
 of Charity and begun a little mission at an
 Chateau in Boulogne, I purpose God willing to
 leave for the North immediately after Easter.
 I saw Mr. Massey at Havre on my way hither,
 a long road we have to make, how to reach Mr.
 Clamer. I cannot say when the river will be open,
 rivers of blood first I fear first flood.
 Begging a brother's share in your holy prayers I
 remain with sentiments of sincere attachment
 and regard in union with the S. Hearts of Jesus
 and Mary immaculate
 your humble & devoted Congregation
 M. M. Maller Esq. Wm. J. P. C. P. N.



Church of the Immaculate Conception.

Baltimore, May 6th 1863.

My dear Congress

Gentle I. vult se per nobiscum

I have just returned from my visit to our Brethren in Orleans. I left there on the 18th ult. and reached N. York on the 29th spent a few days in Germantown and arrived here yesterday, well accompanied by two Postulants who came with me from N. O. to Cambridge and then by Niagara passing on to St. Louis. In a letter written to you from N. O. I informed you that I was requested to remove Mr. Jaquemet from N. O. he refused to come North and on his solemn responsibility sent to Blauvelt to see Mr. Mainwaring and he received by him for answer, the excuse for disobeying my positive orders was that he could not live in the North, the cold climate would kill ^{him} and he was determined to keep to his old spot.

My reasons for removing him were
 several charges of solicitation and some
 other things that proved him unfit for
 the duties of the Ministry and I considered
 that his safety and own character could only
 be secured by removing him at once from
 the exercise of the sacred Ministry. He left N.
 Orleans some time before me and I have
 not heard from him since. Whilst I was
 below the Arch Bishop of N. Orleans and
 the Bishop of Galveston arrived the latter
 bringing forty two Seminarians. We had
 to provide as best we could for this large
 number, and they seem to be very satisfactorily
 accommodated, their ranks will be gradually
 thinned by ordinations but the Archbishop seems
 disposed to keep constantly a good number in
 the Seminary. I saw the means of providing
 for the scholars was but calling Mr.
 Anderson from Donaldsonville, and giving
 him the principal direction of the Seminary
 and an class of theology in the day. Mr.
 Anderson of Virginia had contracted a

severe cold which resulting for the Spring
 and threatened with consumption he was
 advised to go further. I left him also at
 the Seminary where he is able to teach
 a class of English and also attend the little
 Eng. Congregation attached to Bauligny.
 From Mr. St. Olaner who has this charge
 is far gone in consumption and can do nothing.
 The house is then organized as follows:
 Mr. Perrina, Sup. Mr. St. Olaner, Assistant
 and Professor of Theology, Mr. Rube, President
 and Professor of Theology, Mr. Thomas, Professor
 of Philosophy & Pastor of German Congregation
 Mr. St. Smith Professor of Eng. & Pastor of Eng.
 Congregation, Mr. Olaner has the care of the
 You know also they have a pretty large
 French congregation, many confessions, lots
 of charity, ~~and other~~ schools. They are getting
 they can get along well enough for the
 present, but as ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~indication~~ ^{indication} ~~was~~ ^{is} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the}
 Superior I did not wish to make this a
 permanent change for him without the
 advice and consent of our noble Father.

Please then write to me as soon as convenient and let me know his will. I must at the same time state that he is the only French subject there and while the seminarians and the clergy are mostly French I deem it almost absolutely necessary to have some good French subjects in the Seminary, I would then say either leave Mr. Aubineau as he is in some good office and employ Carrière from Hansen Mr. Smith. I do not intend to leave there permanently, and I doubt much if Mr. Rubie's health will permit him to leave and be much employed. As a substitute for Mr. Aubineau I sent Mr. Squarone to help Mr. Baglin in Donaldsonville and as he is a person of substance, I proposed sending Mr. Gagnepain also as soon as I can send some from the north to replace him at St. Joseph. As to the latter church, the confidants are Mr. Haydon, Supr. Mr. O'Reilly, Supr. and Mr. Gagnepain. Their Priests are needed and I proposed sending some

down as soon as I reach home, although
 the season is already far advanced. At St.
 Joseph's they are doing much good, have a large
 and pious parish, a parochial school of upwards
 of three hundred children, attend the
 Charity Hospital and other hospitals in
 their vicinity. I was pleased with my visit
 and all seem well disposed, full of a
 good spirit and anxious to help their Church.
 The political horizon is yet cloudy, and
 God only knows when a bright and sunny
 day will break upon our land, yet we will
 strive to attend to our own duties, minding
 the maxims of our holy Mother, not meddling
 in politics or taking any part in public affairs.
 I have since learned that the En-
 glish made an attack on Cape Girardeau
 and were repulsed. I know nothing of the
 particulars or whether our College and its
 notes suffered any loss. I must remind
 you to send the records of the last Gen.
 Assembly, and the last census to the house
 of Louisiana. Better direct them all
 to St. Joseph's Church, Orleans, La, for

the different ~~and~~ ^{superior} or houses. ~~and~~
 I am especially anxious that they all get
 the late shares which they have not yet
 seen. A Priest from N.O. came up with
 me intending to join our community and
 Mr. Mandine who entered in N.O. will
 finish his novitiate and make his vows
 and be ordained Priest, Dec. solente, in July.
 He is a very interior & exemplary young man.
 From all accounts Mr. Rolando is very anxious
 for my return, and probably will now get the
 permission before given him by the Sup.
 Genl. I have already informed you of my action
 in regard to the matter, if action it may be
 called, for I have been unwilling to be
 entirely passive. I will write again from
 St. Louis, until I have farewell and pray for
 me. Please to present my most affectionate
 respects to Mr. Rolando and all our
 cherished members of the Mission and
 with sentiments of attachment and
 devotion with the N. Heart of Christ
 and your good love, I remain
 Yours, P. C. M.
 Rev. M. Meller, cm.

St. Vincent's Church St. Louis Mo.

May 22^d 1863

Rev. dear Confere.

Gratia D. V. sit semper nobiscum

Allow me through your address to send
the enclosed notes to our two young Conferees
enjoying the hospitality of the Maison Mere.

I write to you from Germantown on my return
from N. Orleans, please to answer at your earliest
Convenience. I reached home last week after calling
at Baltimore, Emmittsburg, Niagara & Lasalle.

Since my annual year of the 28th of April has
come to hand. Mr. Rolando will soon leave us
and after calling^{at} Germantown settle down entirely

I hope at Emmittsburg. I would suggest Mr. Sav-
igeri as Counselor of the Province in his stead,
please to speak to our M.H. and let me know

his will, I will not however make him
Assistant of the house as he is not sufficiently
familiar with English to preside at the Conf-

ences &c. Mr. Dingley will do. At the Cape they are I believe doing better, I send Mr. Landy to replace Mr. Hickey, I will pay them a visit soon. I am very sorry for the threatened rupture in Spain, and hope & pray that it may not be consummated. Here we are doing tolerably well but as I told you before, I find in some of our young men a great want of the solid nature and interior spirit of the mission, particularly in one class, trained up under peculiar influences, younger converts give better hopes. At Trinity we will have an ordination of four Priests two Sub Deacons and several minorists. I do truly from my heart wish that we had at the head of our Province a man of judgment capacity & experience, he could I really believe form a good Province out of the materials, but candidly and in no spirit of much humility before God I must say, I am not the fit man now. Tell the Sup. Gen. this and urge the matter on his attention. Mr. Rossi writes to me that he

has written for a dispensation, my opinion is, not to give it. He does not give entire satisfaction but is rather childish and may be useful in some measure and these evils from the community are discrediting and damaging as a general thing. I have just despatched Mr. M. Hickey and Dwyer to the successor of our Conference at St. Joseph's Church, O.R.C. and sent word for Mr. Gagnepain to repair to Donaldsonville on their arrival. Mr. Gleason at the Barrens has been giving trouble to his Superior and some disreputation to the community. I intend to be somewhat strict and straight forward with those people and not give them all the liberty they have had of going about in the exercise of the ministry. Just now we can do nothing for California, we may afterwards, but one great objection with me is sending subjects so far away where they can scarcely ever be visited, and so remote from the center, communication must be difficult and uncertain. Our political status is little

changed and prospects of amelioration very little
 brighter, whether the Administration will
 enforce the Conscription act of last Congress I
 cannot say, it will be resisted I believe in
 many localities. Even Clergymen are not exempt
 by its provisions and how those in power will
 rigorously or leniently enforce its enactments
 none now can tell and may depend on future
 contingencies. So far we have not been molested
 and we have reason to be thankful
 and grounds for hope. I want Mr. Duncan please
 to determine what you think best in regard to a longer
 stay on the Continent. He is not yet of age to be or
 claimed, if his health be improving, ^{let him remain} where and as long
 as you may deem expedient, and please write to
 the Vicar of Rome for me after coming to a
 determination in regard to him. Our students write
 about joining vacation with an German Congress at
 Cologne, it would be useful, if it be not too expensive.
 Please to present to our M. H. S. the expression of sincerest
 esteem and filial submission, to all the Congress, of affectionate
 regard and believe me cordially & respectfully yours
 most humble servant, *John C. C.*
 Rev. Mr. Mallon.

St. Vincent's Church, St. Louis, Mo.
July 7th 1863

Rev. dear Confere

Gratia D. v. sit semper nobiscum

Some time ago I wrote in relation to the association for the relief of the suffering souls in purgatory, wishing to get some instructions in regard to its establishment here and sending a printed copy of the "Billet d'association" done into English, and stating that I had one foundation for the dead and several yearly subscribers. I would wish to know if they approve our terms changed to correspond with the stipend of the mass in this country and how am I to dispose of the money, what masses may we say here. It is necessary to have some external sign of a living association such as a mass once a week or once a month and a meeting held occasionally to encourage the members otherwise it will fall through. Please to tell them to give me instructions immediately or I shall have to take such independent

action as I will judge necessary for the
 promotion of the object. If they have
 the English translation printed with the
 image as in French, or send me the plate
 and I can have it done here. Please to
 write to me also as soon as you can in
 relation to Mr. Audouin. I have called
 Mr. Ruffe to St. Louis where he is now
 quite satisfied and I think does not wish
 the dispensation for which he applied though
 he is expecting an answer from Paris. I told him
 that if there was real want in his family I
 would permit him to apply to their necessities
 the tentation which he might receive.
 Please also not to forget to direct the visitor
 of Rome to do in Mr. Deane's case whatever
 you may judge best. I would like him to
 remain where he is or in Plaisance where
 the visitor told me he had some free plans,
 until he is of age to be ordained, or if his
 health permits in France, letting him
 in meantime be promoted as his age
 will permit. Just now war news are

very exciting, the fate of the so-called
 Confederacy hangs in the balance, Lee's army
 in Penn. & Maryland created immense excite-
 ment and just now is reported routed, it may
 be in a critical position. A week or ten
 days will tell much, both in the East and
 South. We can afford to await the develop-
 ment, trusting in Providence to regulate matters
 and bring order out of chaos. We are threatened
 with conscription, all our names have been
 enrolled, by the law the clergy are not exempt-
 ed, yet we do not fear much, we would make
 sorry soldiers. I believe I told you that the
 Arch. Bishop came here to our Church and
 ordained four of our young men Priests, two
 Sub-Deacons and quite a number of minors.
 He will come also on St. Vincent's day to
 assist in Mass and Mitre at solemn Mass
 and preach the panegyric of our holy Founder.
 Mr. Rolando has gone to Emmitsburg but
 will have trouble to get through, Mr. Dug-
 ley gave the Retreat at three different
 houses of Sisters of Charity in Md. & Va.

at the earnest request of the sisters of the visitation has gone to Keokuk, to conduct a Retreat for them. In the end of this month I go at the urgent request of Bishop Duggan to conduct a Retreat for the clergy of Chicago and in September Bishop Grace of St. Paul expects me to do the same for the clergy of his diocese. We will commence our annual Retreat here on the 5th of August and I have invited several of the Confessors from the Barrens, Cape, LaSalle and perhaps one from Niagara to join us. I wish to have as many as possible in order to infuse good spirit, unanimity of sentiment and sameness of purpose and also that when these houses make their Retreat some will be able to carry on the works which the others pray. The close of the scholastic year at Niagara and the Barrens was very satisfactory and successful, at the Cape also with the single drawback of paucity of numbers. We will admit three novices from the Barrens on St. Vincent's day, we desire others earnestly, seeing for the same count favor. We are sending our students to spend a couple of weeks at the Cape. They will return for the Retreat, after the Retreat we will make our changes and send the Confessors to their different destinations for the opening of another scholastic year, hence the urgency of the time appointed for our Retreat. We will convene a meeting of the Provincial council, and also consult with the local Superiors in our vicinity. You will please to communicate these details to our Most R. Fr. present him the assurance of profound regard and filial respect, remember me to all kind and cherished friends and Confessors, say an affectionate "how do ye" to our young men and accept for yourself the expression of cordial respect, attachment & love from your hum. but unworthy Confessor

Rev. Mr. Moller, C.M.

J. J. Ryan, P. O. M.

took dinner with us and was familiar and at home. Rev. P. P. Ryan preached an excellent Panegyric and I hope our Father was pleased with the little we could do in his honor & looked down with one of his ever generous and benevolent smiles on his children of America. All the conferences of the St. Vincent de Paul Society went to communion in a body in our church, I said Mass for them and said a few words to them, indeed it was an edifying sight to see so many of the first men of the City approach the sacrament so publicly, the ladies of the Socy. In the evening at the request of the President of the Council, I presided at their general meeting, heard the reports of the different conferences, and a letter of the President General of Paris & in conclusion addressed them a word of encouragement.

Our Students I have just sent to spend a few weeks of their vacation at Cape Girardeau. There is some danger of the draft affecting us here. The attempt to enforce it in N. York, has occasioned shameful, bloody work, and our Irish Catholics are blamed for it all, whether they deserve the blame or not I cannot say, but certainly phrenesied rage seemed to have extinguished in many breasts the commonest feelings of humanity, not to speak of religion. The terrible and bloody drama of war in our country has within the last couple of weeks displayed strange and den estivating scenes and much changed the condition of the suffering sides, but I fear the catastrophe may yet be long delayed. All the rebel strongholds in the N. Y. have fallen, yet it may be some time before the commerce of the nation will resume on that national highway, murderous & destructive guerrillas may long infect its borders. Lee has been driven back from Kern & Maryland, I believe, with heavy loss, but the loss of life was great also in the Federal ranks. I hoped that this time something decisive would be done, yet I fear not. I leave to day for Chicago to conduct the Retreat of the clergy and on my return we will have our own Retreat and I hope to hear from you before its conclusion. Please to present my profound sentiments of respect, attachment and submission to our great honored Father, and remember me respectfully & affectionately to all the cherished conferees of the Mass. There, as I hope dear Conferees, for yourself the warmest and sincerest expressions of undiminished love & regard from your unworthy Confere & most devoted son, etc.

Rev. Mr. Moller C. M.

P. P. Ryan S. O. C. M.



Dans cette lettre est Mr. Artificier de vance
que je rent à cet. Paraphras

St. Vincent's Church

M. Moller.

St. Louis, Mo. Aug. 18 1863

Monsieur et très honoré Père

Votre benediction, si vous plaît.

c'est cause de la difficulté que
j'éprouve en m'exprimant en Français
j'adresse ordinairement mes lettres à
Mr. Moller, mais je ne puis pas me dis-
penser de mon devoir bien doux et com-
solant de mettre devant vos propres
yeux une courte notice de notre
position présente ici en Arkansas.

Nous venons de terminer notre retraite
annuelle. J'avais invité les Confères du
Cap, Barrens et Lesalle de nous joindre
en cette occasion et nous étions quinze
Prêtres, dix Chrétiens, dix Séminaristes
et quatre Frères coadjuteurs et j'ai bien
de croire que le bon Dieu a béni notre
petite retraite terminée pour la fête de
l'Assomption. J'avais invité aussi les

Supérieurs locaux du Cap, du Banens
 et de Niagara ne pouvaient bien se
 trouver ici pour la même fête afin
 prendre en concert avec eux et les Con-
 sulteurs de la Province, les mesures
 les plus convenables d'organisation et mettre
 au pied d'une et solide ses maisons prin-
 cipales de la Province. J'avais donc
 appelé mes quatre Consulteurs, M. Asmuth
 l'Assistant de Niagara et M. McMenamy
 le Supérieur du Banens. Ici depuis le
 départ de M. Rolando nous n'avions pas
 un assistant, M. Drigley offrait sa main
 d'absence comme ^{sous} assistant, et M. Mc Gill
 ne recevait pas bien au Cap, on avait
 des préjugés contre lui et nous avons
 pensé de le mettre ici comme assis-
 tant de la maison et alors les quatre
 Consulteurs Provinciaux seraient dans
 la maison centrale avec le Directeur;
 et j'en pourrais me passer pour les longu-
 érités sans les mêmes inconvénients. Mais
 pour remplacer M. Mc Gill au Cap, nous

Determinons d'y mettre au Mr. Smith
 Supérieur de Niagara pour le moment
 absent à N. Orleans à cause de sa santé, ou
 Mr. Smith, mais comme nous ne pourrons
 rien faire quant le retour de Mr. Smith,
 nous avons cru prudent de laisser les
 choses in statu quo pour le présent,
 donnant ad interim un autre bon Pro-
 fesseur pour aider nos Confères, afin de
 rien omettre de notre part pour le succès
 de cette maison importante. Pour une année
 ou deux elle sera bien soutenue mais si
 nous tenons en Seminaire comme il faut
 j'ai l'espérance que le bon Dieu le bénira,
 et Mr. Digby continuera jusqu'il sera possible
 de faire ce changement des Supérieurs au
 Cap, de me remplacer ici comme sous-
 assistant. Nous avons aussi résolu que nous
 pourrions accepter un établissement en
 Californie, pour lequel Monsig. Amat
 nous a fait tant d'instances et nous, nous
 avez bien voulu signifier notre désir,

et si il vous plaît de désigner Mr. Rolando
 Chef de cette nouvelle maison, nous enverrons
 avec lui Mr. Rubi, Confere Espagnol, résident
 regulier et capable, maintenant dans le sem-
 naire de Nouvelle Orleans, et Mr. Beekey, jeune
 Confere Americain qui est un peu faible
 de santé, mais qui deviendra saine robuste
 dans le climat salubre de Californie.
 Nous avons change le procureur des Cafés et mis en
 son place un jeune Confere Mr. Gendley, la raison
 de ce changement était d'oter l'occasion des premiers
 de haine; il est élu pour la College de Sing-
 ara, ou il n'aura rien à faire que le ménage
 d'écuyer. Nous serons obligés d'envoyer deux Confes
 à N. Orleans pour le mois d'Octobre, et les autres
 changements je m'expliquerai à Mr. Mallen dans ma pro-
 chaine lettre, ou je lui donnerai le personnel de
 toutes nos maisons. Pendant la retraite j'ai parlé
 souventement à nos Confes sur l'obligation de se
 conformer aux Regles et de vivre selon l'esprit
 de la compagnie, il y a et il y aura toujours des mêmes
 nos fautes sont ordinairement fautes de caractère,
 quelques uns sont inconstants et peu fervents et
 peu scrupuleux pour l'observance des reglements.
 Un autre pourrait mieux les former, mais je desire
 le bien de la petite compagnie et la perfection de
 nos Confes. Votre Californie est un lieu qui vicme
 les étudiants maintenant et change de beaucoup
 de satisfaction et d'espérance. Si vous aviez à la tête
 de nos maisons quelques sujets plus âgés et avec plus
 d'expérience, et d'influence pour soutenir l'autorité et
 la regularité nous pourrions maintenant faire mieux,
 nous sommes presque tous jeunes blancs bruns comme
 Mr. Berlier vivant, et il faut fier au bon Dieu. Deux
 de nos Confes, Mr. Rice de Niagara, et Mr. Leyden de Ger-
 mantown ont été fait solides par la conscription, mais
 on leur a donné tout de suite conscription, on n'avait point
 de dents, l'autre incapable de porter d'armes, a eue
 du santé. Si nous n'avons pas encore eu la conscrip-
 tion, j'espère qu'on ne nous troublera pas, car on trahit
 l'argent pour les faire. Avec la santé, Mr. et tres honore
 Père d'acquiescer cette conscription d'un devouement sincere
 et d'une soumission gelable de la part de votre indigne
 fils et humble et obéissant serviteur, J. P. C. M.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Aug. 24th 1863

Rev. dear Conference

Gratias Deo sit semper nobiscum.

A few days ago I wrote to our most
 honoured Father, enclosing certificates of pass of
 two students and telling him of our annual
 Retreat. We had all the Provincial committee
 here and organized our houses for the coming
 year. My plan is to leave the post of Assistant
 of this house vacant for some time yet until
 I can bring Mr. [?] Gill from the Cape by putting
 in his place, Mr. H. J. Smith, now in St. Albans
 on account of his health, or Mr. [?] Smith now
 at Niagara. This change cannot be made until
 next Spring, in the mean time Mr. Dingby as
 Sub-Assistant will replace me in my absence
 here. On the 13th of Sep. I have an engagement
 to conduct a Retreat for the clergy in St. Paul.
 Minn. and after my return I will send you
 in due form the personnel of all our houses.

I am anxious to hear your decision in regard to Mr. Audin, concerning whom I wrote before, it is not worth while sending him back to Donaldsonville, which has been almost completely destroyed. I am also waiting anxiously to learn the decision Mr. Brady will give as in regard to the Association for the relief of the South in Purgatory. I have already one foundation for the dead or I told you \$25.00 also one for the living \$50.00 and perhaps fifty yearly subscribers \$10.00 each. Please to renew the subscription to the 'Monde' for Mr. Barbier, but instead of directing it to the Barons, address it to St. Vincent's Church, St. Louis, Mo. for Mr. Lavigne is anxious to read it and we can remain it here for the Barons. Our students are nearly through Arch. Bishop Kenrick's dogmatic theology and instead of recommending me have concluded to adopt the dogmatic theology of Perrone unless you have some objection to the change and if there be no objection please to send as soon as possible the dogmatic theologies in compendious redaction, such as J. Perrone

It is the correspondence in two volumes.
 Also send us two dozen small Brevi-
 aries with all our offices either black or
 red Breviaries. Some of these they sent before
 were very imperfect, some offices being repeated
 and others mutilated in the binding. I also
 wish you would send to all our houses
 of the South, at least to St. Joseph's Shanty
 and the Seminary in N. Orleans a copy of
 the decrees of the last general assembly and
 also send a copy here to me as ours has in
 some way been misplaced. The arch Bishop
 here told me that he would consider it a
 great favor if I would send one of our Priests
 to hear the Confessions of the Sisters of the Visitation
 the Sisters themselves repeatedly asked the same favor
 so I thought I could not well refuse, please to men-
 tion this our M. H. F. and if he does not give his
 consent, I can withdraw mine. If Mr. Black is
 sent to Bishop Amat, I am now ready to supply his
 place at Emmetsburg and send a couple of Confessors
 with him to open a house of the Congregation there.
 Please to present my kindest regards to all at the fair and
 pray for your health and redoubled labors.

I remain I. P. O. M.



St. Vincent's Church.

St. Louis, Mo. Aug. 28th 1863

Rev. dear Congreg.

Gratia D. V. sit semper nobiscum

Your kind favor of the 20th inst. I received a few days, and after mature reflection I avail myself of a few leisure moments to pen you a word in reply. In the first place I must state that I cannot consent to lose the services of Mr. Asmuth. We must uphold our Institutions here and we look to Mr. Asmuth for much both now & hereafter. I could not take the main prop. from so interesting and promising an establishment as Niagara, in order to do good away in California. After receiving your former letter I wrote to Paris that if they wished to send Mr. Rolando on that distant mission I would send with him Mr. Rubi now in N. Orleans &

Mr. Beakey now here. Mr. Rubie is an
 intelligent, active, exemplary & reliable
 Conferee and on him I principally
 relied for the formation of the house,
 at least for the active duties, to take
 charge of the material or temporal
 interests, ~~and~~ to tell the truth, though
 I believe him every way trustworthy
 and qualified to be Sub-Director of the
 Sisters, I would be sorry to see him ap-
 pointed for that post as it would engross
 the most of his time and attention. Mr.
 Beakey is a good young Conferee, who has
 long been suffering from a severe cough,
 but is now much improved, and would
 I hope be wholly restored by the trip
 to California and be very useful in
 a new house. Some other arrangements
 might possibly be afterwards made, but
 just now I do not see any other that I can
 spare recommend. Before taking any fur-
 ther action in the matter of sending Con-
 ferees to open a house there, I will

await to hear from Paris & Los Ang-
 eles. The above mentioned conference
 I keep in reserve until then, as also
 one to replace Mr. Rolando should
 the Sup. Gen. send him. I must also
 tell you that the council of the Province
 deliberated about recalling Mr. Monaghan
 to a house of the Community as it seems
 strange to see a member of the Commu-
 nity living that way isolated in Mt. Hope,
 and had it not been for the recent
 demise of the Most Rev. Arch Bishop, we
 would probably have recalled him. I
 tell you this for your own guidance
 and that you may if possible see about
 providing a chaplain for the house in
 the course of time. We are all well
 thanks be to God and wishing you see
 the same blessing and begging a share
 in your prayers I remain, Rev. dear Sir,
 your hum. Serv. & devoted confessor
 Wm. J. P. O. M.

Rev. H. Burlingame Esq.

Rev. L. Barlow

St. Vincent's Church, St. Louis, Mo. Oct 7th 1863
 Rev. and very dear Confere

Gratia D.V. sit semper nobiscum

I am surprised that I have not yet received any reply to last letter, especially in reference to the association for the relief of the souls in purgatory; and also in regard to Mr. Audineux and the Seminary in N.O. Today my Brother ~~Wm.~~, Mr. St. Rofai and a good lay Brother George Burns are leaving here for N.O. via Mississippi river. They take a boat from here to Memphis and there reship for N.O. The river is not wholly free from guerillas; ~~but~~ boats are frequently fired upon, yet after making all enquiries I have not much apprehensions of danger on the downward trip. The lay Brother is for the Seminary in N.O. the other two Conferes to help Mr. Hayden at St. Joseph Church. Mr. Smith, who has been down South since last Winter, I desire to carry out the principal object of his Southern journey, viz to collect for the Seminary of Niagara and hence I direct him to try to collect this Winter in Havana and Mr. Rubie whom we destined for the mission of California I have directed to accompany and aid Mr. Smith, until I hear from you and Bishop about in regard to this new foundation. We are all thanks be to God, doing tolerably well, the Seminaries of the Barmens and Niagara are very full, at the Cape they have just fled. We have just begun to repaint the exterior of our church here in St. Louis, the people defraying the expenses by collections and subscriptions. Enclosed note please hand to Sister Deffrey, I wish her to purchase for us a fine suit of vestments, the money has been given for this purpose and is now in the hands of Mr. Burke and I tell Sister to get the money from Mr. Salvage and let him settle with Mr. Burke or let the Merchant draw on Mr. Burke. I have only returned from St. Paul Minn. where I gave a address to the clergy and crowd I must leave again to open a mission in Rochester I will have two or three Conferes with me. I send you according to promise the personnel of the houses of the province. Please to present the assurance of my most profound respect and regards, to our most Rev. Fr. and remember me affectionately and respectfully to all our dear Conferes, especially to our young Americans, and accept my warmest love, with the highest regards,
 Yours &c. J. P. R.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Nov. 24th 1863

Rev. very dear Conference

Gratia D. vult semper nobiscum

Your last long looked for and heartily welcomed epistle of Oct. 9th I received some time ago, whilst on a mission in Rochester N.Y. M.M. Hensy, De Key again here. I spent there four consecutive weeks, laboring hard & independently in preaching, instructing, catechizing and confessing from 5 A.M. to 10 P.M. By skillful maneuvering and much strategy we could get through our office and midnight more than once found me half asleep trying to finish the office of the day. The throng was immense, the attendance encouraging, the enthusiasm inspiring. We had several days, Confessants bearing confessions and yet the crowd pressed on like a tide that would never ebb. I hastened thence to Niagara to conduct a short retreat for the Students and thence in post late back

to St. Louis where, we had to open a small mission in a newly erected neighboring church. This was concluded last Sunday night to our entire satisfaction and I hope to the profit and joy of many a poor soul. A large proportion had been two, three, five, ten, twenty and twenty five years from their duty. You see then we have been busy of late and this must be my excuse for not having previously replied to your note. Please to tell Mr. Marty that I will soon manage all the matters that concern the Pungstonian society and send him the accounts, names &c. Mr. Hayden we could not just now spare from N.C. I have no one to replace, I sent down two conferees to assist him but no one that ^{could} assume his responsible post. Mr. Smith is in Havana recruiting his health and trying to profit of his stay to collect something for viagoras, Mr. Asmuth is seriously threatened with consumption and has had a severe hemorrhage of the lungs, I had to send him

for a time to Baltimore, Mr. Shivers is suffering from inflammatory rheumatism which incapacitates him from teaching. I have written to Bishop Doane that I could send him no one until Spring. Bishop Doane has made us a very generous offer which I here copy in his own words:

"My affection for the Congregation coupled with other reasons has influenced my mind after great reflection to offer to the Congregation my Diocesan Seminary. The terms will be 1st that I will convey the deed of the whole property free from every debt to the Congregation, there are ten acres of ground attached to the Seminary, the building itself is very good, the property is worth from fifteen to twenty thousand dollars. 2^d I will have there educated my Seminary men by paying the regular pension for each one. You see that such an offer, I do not think was ever made to the Cong. in this country before. The average

number of Students that I will entertain will be thirty or more, there are more than thirty now, besides those of other dioceses. The situation is most beautiful for a Seminary. Another reason I have for giving the Seminary to our Congregation is that I wish if God be pleased to spare me for some time, to have funds for giving Missions to this diocese. I wish to give those funds to the Congregation that I will do any how whether you take the Seminary or not."

These are his own words, I answered him that we appreciated his generous proposal and that for myself I was disposed to accept it and would immediately write for the requisite permission to our (M. H. S. I. S.) it before my council, they coincide with me in accepting it and hence I wish you to let me know as soon as possible what the Sup. Gen. thinks of it. The Bishop has had difficulties with the secular Priests now in charge of it. It is both preparatory & theological. We may manage to spare some Congregationalists soon if you think well of accepting it, in all respects he will accept a speedy answer. We are here all pretty well, I go down this week to visit the Cape & the Bananas.

Please to present my profoundest regards to our (M. H. S. I. S.) kind respects to all the Congregations, love to my own two young Americans if they have yet returned from Deutschland, and for yourself be pleased to accept the best wishes and kindest regards of a sincerely devoted Congregationalist & friend. A. H. S. in X. C.

Wm. Ryan J. P. C. M.

Rev. Mr. Maller C. M.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Dec. 18th 1863

Rev. very dear Conference

Gratia D. v. sit semper nobiscum

Your favor of the 19th containing note for Mr. Heneey and apprising me of the permission given to him of repairing to the Mother House, was recd. some days ago and is hereby thankfully acknowledged. I forwarded the note to Mr. Heneey at once and I shall put no obstacles in his way, but leave him entirely free. I had written to him before to meet me in St. Louis last week as I designed to send him to the Cape, but he was engaged in a little mission at Peru and he will be shown next week. From the commencement of the scholastic year I saw the necessity of changing Mr. Gill, he could never succeed at the Cape and when lately there on a short visit this conviction became stronger and after consulting the council I removed him

leaving Mr. & M^r O'Leary Assistant of the house
 and Vice Superior intending to send Mr.
 Henry down as soon as possible, and Mr.
 O'Leary will have to continue to hold the
 reins of authority and I have no doubt he
 will do well with the help he has, though
 it was very reluctantly and fearfully that he
 accepted the post. There was a great pre-
 judice both with the Conferees and Semi-
 narians and I believe Bishops and Priests
 against Mr. M^r Gill, who is indeed an excellent
 and devoted Confere, but rather impulsive and
 unpolished, lacking perhaps judgment and firm-
 ness. Mr. O'Leary had a severe attack of the
 mania of the lungs and I sent him with
 advice to reside at Baltimore, Mr. O'Leary
 was incapacitated from teaching by Rheuma-
 tism in the head so I had to send him tem-
 porarily to Lasalle and hence the good Confere
 of Niagara found themselves in need of help.
 I sent them a young Confere from the Banars
 Mr. Henrich and also Mr. M^r Gill without
 making any permanent change until we receive

see how Mr. Samuel's Leech would turn,
 or what likelihood there is of Mr. Smith's
 permanent recovery, who is now nearly a
 year down South. I will be soon expect-
 ing a reply to my last in relation to Bishop
 Doane's offer. Please to hand the enclosed
 to Mr. Lamey who wrote to me from Germany,
 and told me he expected to return to Paris about
 Christmas. Their theological studies will
 I presume suffer, yet we must hope
 that the experience and knowledge of men
 and things which they will acquire, will
 in some measure compensate therefor. Poor
 St. Ryan to whom you send the disputation of his
 novus has met with a sad and shameful fall, he has
 lost his character and post in which he figured so con-
 spicuously, he was taken in flagrant obli-
 vion and the matter was spread to the public in the public papers, may
 God have mercy on him and protect his Church suffering
 only from scandalous Priests. I must also say with sorrow
 that some of our young Priests cause me pain and anxiety
 they seem to have no spirit and seek relaxation, freedom
 from the restraints of rule in fact are no way scrupulous

or delicate of conscience. This fallen as Confessors' example and opponent success had a damaging influence on a certain class, who all seemed to breathe the same spirit infected with the same contagion, I fear often all that we will have to give his dismissal to Mr. Ropes who wrote to you for a dispensation and to Mr. Devye, Mr. Haysden writes to me that they publicly deny the binding obligation of oaths, say they know not the rules which they make their rules and maintain they are not bound except as far as they say so. That peculiar school I fear must be searched out before we shall have the true spirit, I told you before of them and how they originated and where they found support. I have written to Mr. Devye plainly and severely and in great letters to him that having done my best and charged him from house to house I feel unless his conduct changed that in justice to the community I should have to apply to the Sup. Gen. for his dismissal from the community. I must await awhile to see what turn things may take. I must now plainly tell you that in case Mr. Haysden goes to Paris I absolutely forbid against any of my confidential letters being made known to him, or his having anything to say or do in the administration of the Province. Wherever he is so very disappointed subject makes him a confidante, not that he sides with them, but his natural character makes him a center towards which disaffection seems naturally to gravitate, he listens to them, sympathizes with, becomes their organ or mouthpiece and whilst in words condemns them, confirms them and gives them confidence. The conciliates and attracts and without knowing it perhaps, sets his idol. He is zealous, laborious, not measurable, wins favor and exercises considerable influence with the people, who place implicit confidence in his sanctity especially on the missions, and yet I always feel disgusted at the little ways by which any thing is turned to self and ends in self, that if I could catch a missionary head, he would be excluded from it, ^{this is my fear} and whether true or not, you may have an opportunity of judging for yourself. Please to present my heartfelt remembrance of my life, health & happiness to our M. N. S. on the part of the other dear children, I do not think necessary to write a formal letter of felicitation for the year 1840 we are not left behind and devoted if less warmly, informal, yet heartily we shine for him and all the Congregation throughout the world the richest blessings of Heaven blessing the coming year and I am sure you will accept this especially for your own respected self from a sincerely devoted friend and confessor away off in the humble and obsolete but clearly chosen land of Scotland. Rm. M. Meller Em. Gauls &c. J. R. M.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, - Mo. Dec. 30th 1863.

Rev. dear Conference

Gratia D. v. sit pauper noliscum

Although I recently wrote to you I again avail myself of Mr. Heneey's departure to send a few lines again to wish you all many long happy years of health and happiness, and also to annoy you with some little matters of our Province.

Enclosed I send the names of the members of the Association of the B. Trinity, is it necessary to send yearly the names of the yearly members? or will merely the number suffice? I will keep 2^d names and hold the rest subject to his call and 2^d names at the same rate for every foundation, does this hold for foundations of the living and dead? I have expended some money on printing and now have in the press the

more extended notice of the work. I will
 soon send him the accounts in form.
 Mr. Burlando wishes that we should give
 up to the Priests of the College the Parish
 at Emmetburg and the Council seem to
 favor it. They also advise retiring from
 Donaldsonville, please to inform me of your
 advice and the will of our Most Holy Father.
 Please to send us six dollars more. As I inform
 you before Mr. Asmuth was unable to
 attend to duty at the Seminary and an excellent
 Physician advised him to go if possible to
 California, hence I have just written to
 him to see Mr. Burlando and get all ne-
 cessary instructions in relation to the Sisters
 of Charity in Cal. and then proceed with
 our two young Conferes (Mm. Bekey &
 Pygott) to Los Angeles to establish a
 house of the community and attend to the
 direction of the Sisters. Mr. Burlando
 asked me for Mr. Asmuth for this post of
 Sub-Director of the Sisters before, but I

refused as I could not prevail on myself
 to deprive our house of Niagara of his
 invaluable services, now Providence, it
 seems, determines otherwise and I must yield.
 The other two Confessors are delicate, one
 of them Mr. Pygott is I fear far gone in
 Consumption, yet the Dr. says this change
 may prolong his life, I have today written
 to Bishop Adair to notify him of the
 speedy realization of his long wish for ~~copy~~
 to stating at the same time that in early Spring
 I hoped to be able to send him another Confessor
 in case Mr. Pygott would be unfit for study.
 I feel myself again urged to propose to the
 Sup. Gen. the relieving of me from the office
 of Visitor. I do it with entire submission to
 the will of Superiors, but I think such a chan-
 ge might be for the good of the Province.
 If you ask me whom I would suggest to
 take the post I say in the first place
 Mr. Beaulieu, in the second place either Mr. Jus-
 tina's or Mr. Hayden and either of these
 in case the first was appointed could well

take his place. Nothing but obedience
 could induce me to take charge of the
 Sisters for I am wholly unfitted for it.
 But might not Mr. Philando be ^{traveller}
 and retain principal charge of the Sisters
 in other Provinces these studies are united
 and some advantages would attend such
 an arrangement as he could then more easily
 attend to the wants of both. As far as
 regards myself I think you may with advan-
 tage consult Mr. Henney. Now I do not wish
 in any manner to force Superiors or to do
 my own will or be judge in my own cause
 but merely represent simply and candidly
 what occurs to mind and declaring that I
 will feel most happy to retire for awhile
 to my house in the Province and to my duty
 in that house to live under a Superior and
 to attend more to my own soul, and study what
 I find I am so deficient in. Please to repre-
 sent these matters to our M. H. and write to
 me soon. Present also my most respectful
 homage of submission and regard to the same,
 and with respect and sincere attachment to all
 the Confessors and to yourself in particular I
 remain Rev. dear Sir, your hum. servt, &c. &c.

Confessors *J. Ryan M. H.*
J. H.

Rev. M. Mullen O. M.

Vinecent's Church
ST. MARY'S SEMINARY,

St. Louis
 St. Charles, Prop. Co., Mo., Jan'y 5th 1864

Rev. Dear Sir and Confrere:

Gratia D. N. sit semper nobiscum.

It becomes my painful duty to
 announce to you the loss which we have sustained in the
 death of Bro. William Henson
 deceased at Our Lady of Angels, Nevada in the Province of
United States on the 28th day of
Decr. 1863 in the 46th year of his age
 and 18th of vocation. You will, if you please,
 have the usual suffrages of your community offered for the
 repose of his soul.

Your humble servant and devoted Confrere

W. Ryan S. P. C. M.

Dear good Brother died most happily, resigned
 and peaceful, fortified by all the supports of religion
 and surrounded by his brethren P. S. P.
 I wrote to you a long letter a few days ago enclosing
 one for Mrs. Wm. Henson, and entrusted them to

Mr. Hensy, who is already en route for the
 mainland more and de Belle France! He intends I
 believe to pass through Ireland and perhaps
 may be detained there some time. I hope
 however that you will soon get my commu-
 nication through him and soon set on it.
 The weather is intensely cold, the river frozen
 solid all the way to Cairo. Horses, teams and
 pedestrians are constantly crossing it at this point and
 thousands of skaters making the light flatter-
 ice too on its glassy surface. I am freezing
 here in my room. New Year's day I nearly fainted
 through cold, saying Mass as of at the same
 asylum and had barely time to reach the sanctuary.
 This morning I was almost so bad, scarcely able
 to say Mass in our own church here. You know
 I am a poor creature, anyhow and it does not
 take much to use me up. God help the poor,
 and exposed. We are waiting for our vestments and
 the other articles, pictures, Breviaries &c. for which
 we wrote, by Mr. Hensy I requested you to send us
 six additional volas for this year. With love
 and kind regards to all I remain
 yours &c. respectfully
 Wm. J. O'Meara

St. Vincent's Church St. Louis Mo.
Jan'y 28th. 1864

Rev. dear Confere

Gratia D.V. sit semper roborem

The writer of the enclosed is a student who made his vows about one year ago and all I know about his case is what he relates to you. We will not much regret him should Superiors think they have grounds for a dispensation. He spoke to me a few days ago and I felt rather indignant that he should so easily propose a dispensation of his vows, when he has been living in the community for the last three or four years and now thinks himself nearly ready to be ordained. He has always been good but his talents are poor and he will never be very efficient, especially now as he has got this notion into his head, he seems bent on it and has written to his father that he will help him as soon as he is ordained Priest. I am expecting a letter from you and we are also looking for those books, vestments, sinetures &c. for which we wrote.

Your hum. ant. & devoted servant

Rev. M. Maller C.M.

Wm. J. P. C.M.



St. Vincent's Church.

St. Louis, Mo. Feby. 27th 1864

Rev. dear Confere

Gratia D. N. sit semper nobiscum

Yesterday on my return from
a mission in Buffalo I was greeted by
the sad announcement of the demise
of our venerable, patriarchal and saintly
Confere John B. Tornatore deceased
at the Seminary of the Boreas on the
of this month in the 81st year of his
age and 63rd of Resurrection and I hasten to
send you the tidings that the suggestions
of the community may not be delayed for
our dear departed Brother. I need say
nothing in his praise, I could say nothing
that would be equal to merits, he died
as he lived a true and faithful servant
of the Lord, fortified by all the sacraments
of the Church, calmly, resignedly, peacefully
in the midst of his Brethren, who admired

loved and venerated him in life and death.
 He was a true missionary a faithful child
 of St. Vincent and the Superior has written
 to me that his last moments vividly recall
 to the minds of all the death of our holy
 Founder. "Beati mortui qui in Domino mori-
 untur." God grant that his mantle may fall
 on those who survive him, that his spirit
 may be inherited by the successors of the
 Province and that the rising generations walk
 in his footsteps. I have just received
 your letter inviting me to the grand cer-
 emony of the 24th of April, the majority of
 my consultants are opposed to my absenting
 myself so long from the Province, we have
 concluded to reconsider the matter at a future
 meeting. I would be pleased to see so many
 good Conferes assembled together on so inter-
 esting an occasion and I would be glad of
 the opportunity of speaking to you and our
 M. S. F. on matters connected with our Province
 yet for merely personal motives I would not
 undertake the journey and hence I will be

decided by the voice of my council. Of course
 if we knew that the Sup. Gen. really wished
 my presence that would determine the matter
 but some are inclined to regard it as a
 mere invitation of formality or etiquette
 and think the presence of Mr. Burdett will
 cover all the wishes of the Gen. and suf-
 ficiently represent the U. S. Letters from
 Mr. Hayden in N.Y. inform me that Mr.
 Rossi has given them notice that he in-
 tends to leave the Congregation and has
 again written to the Sup. Gen. for a dis-
 pensation, his conduct is disorderly and
 refractory somewhat dangerous to the
 reputation of the Community as he cannot
 be kept from frequent and long, unnecessary
 and forbidden intercourse ~~from~~ ^{with} ~~persons~~ ^{other} ~~persons~~
 A young, useful and exemplary ^{young} Brother
 believed himself called to a more rigid life
 and in spite of the remonstrances of his
 Superior & Director left us to join the
 Trappists. The delusion vanished as soon
 as he left the house and he was back

again in about a week asking humbly
 for readmittance and avowing his fault.
 I admitted him to the Seminary and he
 has been since going on as usual giving
 satisfaction and edification to all, but now
 his three years of probation are past
 and he desires to be admitted to his holy
 vows. I scarcely thought his absence under
 that brief temptation a moral interruption
 of his time yet I prefer to lay the matter
 before the Syn. Gen. and await his reply.
 All here are in favor of him and think his
 constancy need not be doubted. Tomorrow
 every other mission here in St. Bridget's
 Church, last Sunday we closed one in
 St. Bridget's Church, Buffalo, please to tell
 Mr. Lacey that whilst there his mother
 called on me she is very well and only com-
 plains a little that John does not write. At
 kind remembrance to him and Mr. McNamee
 and affectionate respectful regards to all
 the Sisters I remain your ever sincerely
 devoted friend and am. vobis. etc. and beg-
 ging you to present my most profound respects
 to our M. H. S. I must earnestly and humbly
 solicit a share in your prayers for many
 wants of self and Province.

Wm. J. C. O. C. M.
 Rev. Mr. Maller C. M.

St. Vincent's Church St. Louis (Mo.)

June 5th 1864

P. Rev. & V. dear Confere

Please to hand the enclosed to our two young students, they principally regard their vacations on which they had consulted me. I do not wish them to relax about and incur unnecessary expense during vacations, but whatever Superiors may deem beneficial to health or studies or future usefulness I shall fully endorse. As to Mr. Demarey if you think well of it, I am of opinion that it would be as well for him to return to Paris to spend his Vincent's day and octave and then perhaps pass a couple of the summer months travelling about in parts of our houses of Germany or elsewhere and return to us coming on autumn. I will write this to him but leave him sufficient margin to adopt any line of conduct which either heads and a better knowledge of his case may dictate. Please to write to him directly and give him your advice, for I will tell him to follow the advice of his Superiors. Mr. O'Connell has accepted his dispensation and left us also Mr. Rossi, the latter rather reluctantly or wished to value his conscience by having an opinion from me that he was unfit for the Congregation. He remains a few days at the Cape until he read my reply which was, "you are not justified in conscience and must be just in leaving us." Your dispensation, if you wish to leave according to the spirit of your state, exemplify obedient and regular you can be a respected and useful member of the community, and if such be your sincere

resolve, stay where you are, write to the Superior to
 to regard your application as non avenue or to
 readmit you to the bosom of the little congregation
 from which you are unwilling to separate yourself.
 But the great news was that he accepted it, thanked
 me for my kindness and threw the blame on some other.
 Another application either has been made or will be
 made by Bro. Thomas. I removed him from St. Louis
 and gave him orders to proceed to Niagara. He came
 to St. Louis but would not go to Niagara and went
 down the river to Memphis, he wanted to labor for
 the Germans and he was always thwarted in his desires.
 Inclosed I send you a note which he wrote on his
 way up, ~~which~~ is a servant girl or charges her daughter
 Mrs. Clayton got hold of this and forwarded it to you
 you may take it for what it is worth, it shows at least
 that his attachments were there and he calculated on con-
 tinuing them, which he could not well do at Niagara.
 You must not conclude however that we are departing
 from all our miseries, our some members who have
 little spirit of missionaries, we have much reason to thank
 God and be hopeful, the community in general gives satisfaction
 and promises much for the future. I must again complain
 that our representations are unheeded and proposals unavailing
 at these quarters. I have no mind to control higher councils
 and I am perfectly willing to conform to their decisions, but I
 would like to know their decisions and whether my propo-
 sitions were brought before them. My proposal to resign
 Donaldsonville to the Bishop, and to be relieved from the office
 I weakly and ineffectually hold, I deemed of some importance &
 yet I have not heard a word in regard to them. Mr. Henry &
 then left Paris to return to our Province, but we have not the
 slings of him yet. Bishop Donceau asked for a Superior who
 rather at least for his ministry, but I answered until we could
 take it to direct it according to our rules with regularity and
 ecclesiastical discipline I thought it prudent not to
 attempt it. Besides just now it would be useless in us and
 expose us to much opposition, for he is at variance with
 the present directors. Please to send us your earnest remembrance
 the Brethren and abridged Bonnet's dogmatic theologies which
 were asked in a former letter. Please to present my profound
 respects to our M. M. & S. M. write if possible in answer of
 my recent visitation soon. Love & kind remembrance to all the
 Brethren and accept for yourself this expression of sincere
 esteem and affectionate regard from your brother
 elevated Confessor *St. Ignace S. J. Com.*
 Rev. Mr. Moller S. J.



Saint Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Aug. 11th 1864

Rev. dear Congreg

Gratia D. V. sit semper nobiscum

Your kind favor of July 14th containing document for Mr. Thoma has come duly to hand, for which many thanks. Permit me to correct an impression which is apparently contained in your esteemed misgiving. If I desired a change or to be relieved from the duties of my present office, it was not on account of difficulties which I experienced, but because of my own ineptness and because I believed another would promote the interests of the community and the glory of God much more effectually. About those defections I am little troubled except sometimes by the thought that wiser and holier direction might perhaps prevent them, and I assure you candidly I never stopped a moment to consider the effects which these occurrences might produce elsewhere, for if they should only convince you over there of the insufficiency and incompetency of our administration my point would be gained. Nor do I think that we are in storm or amid extraordinary trials as to our Province,

though it appears from letters from some of our
 young men, that Mr. Jaquemet has told strange tales
 of our national and domestic troubles. I hope for his
 own sake that he will do better elsewhere than
 he has done here and that when he leaves he will
 leave stronger regrets behind him. We are I think on
 the whole doing tolerably well and our Congresses seem
 in general to be animated with a good spirit, one or
 two more of that bad leaven may be brought in and
 possibly may follow their fellows, but I have no special
 reason to complain. This I say for your own conso-
 lation because I know you feel an interest in our
 Province, sympathize in our troubles and rejoice in
 our prosperity. If I should myself grieve it was because
 I feared my representations and demands did not reach the
 ears of authority, for I only wish to get a hearing and
 learn their decision. Mr. Lisco is I believe in
 Boston and although I do not know in what church
 I suppose a letter addressed to him Boston, Mass,
 would reach him. Please to tell Mr. Devin that I
 have received his note accompanying the last
 obituary notice and that I do not know anything
 of the missing pages of my letter to our Mr. H. J. Perhaps
 I noted the pages wrong and that there is no want
 of connection in the matter. In any case I cannot

now supply it, as I took no copy and do not now remember the thread or nature of the communication. I suppose it makes little matter and the world will suffer little by throwing the whole aside. I will also try to satisfy ^{him} by having some notice of our deceased Conferees written.

Please also to let Sister Jeffrey know that I have received a couple of notes from her, the last by her Sister-in-law, but I have not yet received the bestments, they are yet in the Custom house at New York, from which I am trying to get them released free of duty, I will write to her as soon as I receive them. Our colony to California has not yet secured I believe a permanent home, and Mrs. Asmus and Barbé have suffered much from ill health, perhaps it is one of those projects of Providence, rapid and surely tried in the beginning, to be richly blessed in the sequel. God grant it. I sent Mr. Henry shortly after his return to see Bishop Doane ~~about~~ ^{concerning} the proposed Seminary. We did not wish to accept the property offered with the responsibility of providing for the support of the Seminary, though we offered to assume the direction under proper guarantee and a competent remuneration for the Provost. Some of our Priests are now conducting a very successful mission

in Auburn N.Y. and after our annual Retreat which will take place towards the end of this month, I hope to be able to organize a staff of Missionaries three or four in number to give Missions during the months of September, October & November. Mr. Hayden is up from N. Orleans, I will keep him to help us on these Missions. The reports all well below. Mr. Allen one of our young Conferees was ordained Priest on St. Vincent's day and the same day we received a young man from Niagara into the Novitiate and the 15th inst. we will receive another from the Banans. Some others are knocking for admittance and should the opening of classes we will admit perhaps a couple more. Our national embarrassments still continue and are apparently becoming more entangled, but the darkest hour, they say, is nearest dawn and we may in spite of appearances be near the end. God knows what is best, and Providence directs all. Please to present my profoundest respects to our M. R. Father, and remember me kindly to all the Conferees, especially to our young Americans. If Mr. Duncanson has arrived tell him I have recd. his note from Rome. You know my wishes in regard to him, all however subordinate to any thing that may benefit his health, tell Mr. Duncanson also that I have received his letter and will answer soon. Accept now, Rev. dear Conferee, the expression of affection and regard with which I have the honor to be Your truly & devoted Conferee

Rev. M. J. Mullen C.M. J. H. Am. S. P. Am.



Saint Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Aug 18th 1864

Rev. dear Confere

Gratia D.V. sit semper nobiscum

I am in receipt of your esteemed favor of the 29th ult. informing me of Mr. Halmer's application for a dispensation from his vows, and asking my opinion on the subject. My opinion is that a dispensation ought not to be granted, for I do not consider his reasons valid or well grounded. He is a young German Confere, whom we admitted after studying some time at the Barrons, where he always showed himself well disposed, humble and obedient. His talents were very ordinary and after a long trial, when his two years of Novitiate were nearly over, it was decided in council that he was minus habens and he was dismissed. Our Conferes at LaSalle received him as Sacristan and gave him an opportunity of attending a classical school for some time and at the representation of his teacher and the Conferes of LaSalle we were induced to give him another trial and in due time he was

allowed to make his vows, went through his studies slowly and was ordained. Lasalle was his first mission he always did pretty well, but got attached to the people of Peru and the duties of the ministry there. The people of Peru were always clamoring for a resident Priest and would be independent of Lasalle. I, at length, with the advice of the Priests of Lasalle, determined to withdraw our Confessors and let them know that they must apply to the Bishop of the diocese for a clergyman. Mr. Kolmer began to intrigue with the Bishop and would gladly remain as Parish Priest of Peru and I believe the Bishop promised to receive him if free from our community, the Bishop however sent another German Priest to Peru and I removed Mr. Kolmer. About the purity of his intention in making his vows I can say nothing, but he was long enough in the Novitiate to understand them thoroughly, a difficulty in observing them; he had I suppose to conquer the inclinations of nature which often refines under the salutary restraints of obedience and he was guilty of some faults against the discipline and obedience due to his superiors. National feelings had some share in his discontent, he thought the superiors did not sympathize sufficiently with the poor Germans and that Mr. Anthony had been too much after money. I do not think that he would be benefited by being dismissed from the community and I do not believe that he will do us any injury by remaining. According to your letter we will expect Mr. Deane before long. Could you not send those books for which I wrote & copied so many times and for which Perone's abridged dogmatic theology, which Mr. Lavigne is very anxious to have as a class book for our own students. I have no Breviaries to give our young Priests and we cannot get our Supplement here. Respectful love, submission and regard to our Mother, St. Vincent's remembrance to all the Confessors and every thing that is good and desirable for yourself from your humble servant, solus et solus. Wm. J. P. C.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Aug 18th 1864

It becomes my painful duty to announce to you the loss we have sustained in the person of

Rev. Urban Sagnepain

deceased at St. Joseph's N. Orleans Province of

U. S. on the 17th day of

Aug. 1864. 31st year of age & 12th of Vocation

Please to have the usual Suffrages of the Community offered for the Repose of his Soul.

W. J. P. C. M.

He died after an illness of two weeks of a very malignant attack of small pox, contracted doubtless in the discharge of his ministerial duties. His death was edifying & consoling, his life had been exemplary, we can from personal knowledge testify that he was always and humble, zealous, obedient & devoted confere. W. J. P.

The death of this good and useful Conferee is indeed a loss to us, especially under our circumstances, but the holy will of God be done, he died an edifying happy death and this I have had to remark with great consolation of all our young Conferees who have been taken from us by the appointments of Heaven. His Superior, good Mr. Hayden was absent when he died, I had invited him up here, purposing to put him at the head of a regular band of missionaries, but I find I cannot yet realize that object, so that after giving some missions during the coming Autumn he will return to his post reinforced with some Conferees to fill vacancies below. I will also send Mr. Duncan down before the cold weather, I wrote to him to N. Y. to meet me in Ithaca N. Y. where we are to open a mission on the 1st prox. Mr. Bachin has sent me \$12. I give them to Mr. Burke and you will please comply with his wish. He is an old man and we must try to humor him, but he is very troublesome and talks very imprudently concerning Superiors in no measured terms and blaming what has no existence except in his own imagination. Ex. gratia, I was again to visit Mr. Barland and Mr. Honey before the Sup. Gen. and therefore would not go to Paris. To me those things do no harm, but similar censures of the local hierarchy at Paris are not productive of good. We have just finished our Retreat and are very busy making our appointments for the ensuing year, you will hear of them all shortly. Yours &c. Morgan J. P. C.



Seminary of Our Lady of Angels.

Suspension Bridge,

Niagara County, New York.

Nov. 15th 1864

Rev. and very dear Congregation
 Gratia D. V. sit semper nobiscum
 Your favor of the 30th Sept.
 reached me here forwarded from St. Louis
 and was perused with pleasure yesterday.
 I am glad that you have procured the
 Breviaries and copies of Penone and you
 must thank Sister Duffey in my name
 for boxing and shipping them. Please
 also to tell Sr. Duffey that our Breviaries
 have been received all safe and free
 from duty through the intelligent and
 kind management of our good friend
 Rev. T. J. Mooney, N.Y. I have not seen them
 yet as I have not been home since the
 beginning of Sept. but I suppose they are
 beautiful and good, her Sister is a sufficient
 guaranty of this, but I shall give her my
 own opinion as soon as I shall have

seen them. I thank you also for purchasing the Encyclopaedical Dictionary and I will mention it to the Librarians of the other houses, so that they may if they please procure copies. I will also if an opportunity presents remind these Re. Revs of their indebtedness to you and in the meantime I will authorize you to draw on the Procurator of the house in my name for that sum and charge the Province. Mr. Deaneau arrived safe and looked remarkably well, I hope that our good God will restore him to health. I shall have him released as soon as he obtains the requisite age, in the meantime I sent him in company with Mr. Haydon and another delicate young Confess to N. B. Now I cannot understand how the two missing pages were mislaid, I remember they contained a rather lengthy description of my journey to the Cape and thence to Cairo with some historical particulars of the war in that neighborhood. I cannot replace them but I will, as good Mr. Deaneau seems to desire it, fill up the lacuna as far as necessary to make the connection. Respectfully and devotedly your most humble servant, S. C. C.

Rev. M. Mallet C. M.

S. C. C.



St. Vincent's College. *DD*

Cape Girardeau, Mo. Dec. 12th 1864

Rev. and esteemed Conference

Gratia D. N. Sit semper nobiscum

Last night we closed the annual Retreat of this Community at which I presided by the urgent petition of the Superior, giving at the same time a Retreat of five days to the Seminarians. I think we have reason to feel thankful for the grace bestowed on both Retreats. The Community edified me by their regularity and fervor and simplicity and humility, especially at the repetition of prayer. What we read of some of our early Missions, that one would almost fancy himself at the policy of judgment occurred to me, or that the practice of public confession was revived so sincere and ingenuous and humble in owning & begging pardon for past faults. The enclosed is your letter from Mr. Holmer, who appears on

truly distressed of his erroneous and deluded
 conscience. I knew from his character which
 I gave you before that he could be saved.
 I know not whether I can say the same of
 Mr. Gleason. I fear that he has gone too far
 to be reclaimed, he has borrowed money for
 his relatives without our knowledge and
 his disposition makes me fear that he
 will never be a useful member of our
 community. Before leaving St. Louis I pro-
 posed the matter to the Council and they
 were of opinion that I might safely
 write to you that his departure will
 be no loss to the community. Yet I do
 not know but the facility with which
 such dispensations are given may be preju-
 dicial to weak minds and induce others
 to petition for the same. My own opinion
 is that these dispensations do not free
 the subject before God, and that they are
 given in self-protection, the community
 having the right to dismiss dangerous mem-
 bers as we cut off gangrene or mortified

limbs. Thus I have explained the matter,
 please to let me know am I right or
 not. Does the Sup. General or Can the
 Sup. Gen. gives dispensations that entirely
 relieve the subject from the obligation
 of his vows, or is it only by the natural
 right of self preservation that the community
 dispenses them? If the latter, then the ^{dispensation} ~~latter~~
 does not secure them in leaving or prevent
 sin, and we might wait until they have
 actually gone or until we discover that
 their presence amongst us is injurious
 or infectious, of which we would be the
 judge not they. Poor Br. Gamboloni
 after having been received back after
 going out and spending some time in St.
 Louis, has gone again from the Banau
 whether we sent him for security, but
 his mind is somewhat impaired in my opinion.
 Now I have another matter to which you
 will please allow me to call your attention.
 Mr. Rolando has received an intimation

that our M. H. Fisher has yielded to the
 instances of Mr. Durando to have him
 return to Italy as Rector or Prefect of
 the Seminary of Genoa. Mr. Rolando as you know
 is very reluctant to leave this country and take
 that charge, yet he is a good Confessor and will
 not disobey nor even demand a formal order
 from the Sup. yet he wishes me to state the
 case to the Sup. with my views and then he
 will obey any order conveyed through me
 to him. In my opinion Mr. Rolando is not the
 man for that post as I candidly wrote to Mr.
 Durando, his character, weak, timid and unbusiness
 and his abilities, acquirements and habits unfit
 in my eyes. He is an exemplary and reliable
 Confessor whose example and presence among
 us has its weight and influence for good and we
 do not like to lose him. He could scarcely
 become Italian again in his habits after the long
 series of years spent in America. If he hesitates
 it is because he thinks it (Mr. Durando more than
 the will of our M. H. F.) that calls him to Italy. Please
 to mention the matter again from me to the Sup. Gen.
 and let Mr. Rolando consent through me or directly
 the will of the Sup. Gen. and by nice leave for
 Italy just before the game season for a couple
 of months. Spring comes round, or even sooner at any time
 I seriously wish. The season is now unfavorable for
 travelling and you intimates to him that he need not
 hurry so in any case he hopes that the delay will
 be of no answer to this will not be opposed to such
 order. In this house there are only sixteen students, and the
 revenues did not meet the expenses, yet it was perhaps
 owing to accidental causes and we are inclined to have
 Confessors and hope for better things, at least we must
 just now only struggle on and await the manifestation
 of the will of Providence, we hope the Cape since you
 flourish and do much good in the collection of funds
 candidates for the Priesthood. Please to wish for the
 and most especially from me personally and all our friends
 la bonne nuit adieu et toutes bonnes to our most
 dear Father and accept for yourself and all our good friends
 the warmest and most affectionate regards of
 Rev. Mr. Maclean, &c.

Buffalo Jan^y 16th 1865

Rev. dear Honored Conference

Gratia D. V. sit semper nobiscum

I at length find leisure to pen you a few lines in confirmation of the unwelcome news which you have already received in relation to the burning and total destruction of our Seminary at Niagara. It was destroyed on the 5th of December and I heard nothing of it until the 20th when I reached St. Louis from the Barrens. The river was blocked with ice and all communication closed and hence my ignorance. Immediately after Christmas I came back and found Mr. Rice in the Hospital suffering with small-pox and Mr. Henrick brought in, the same day, having narrowly escaped with his life in an attempt to get on the railroad cars after they had got under way. They are both still in the Hospital improving slowly. Your Bishop Simon and

Mr. Rice were very anxious to reopen classes
 without delay and had commenced refitting
 an old tenement here in Buffalo. On inspec-
 tion of the tenement and locality and con-
 sultation with Mr. Wm. Gill I determined not
 to open classes in it, for it was too unstable
 a place to bring either Students or Conferees
 to dwell in it and countermarching orders
 given I resolved to commence as soon as
 possible to rebuild on the former site at
 Niagara and in the meantime to occupy our
 Conferees in collecting. Now it will be no
 small undertaking, and God only knows how
 we shall succeed. We have no money on
 hands, we had two insurance policies of
 \$6000. each, but owing to some bungling and
 change of agents, we were not notified that
 one of the policies had expired a few days
 before the catastrophe, so that we can recover
 but six thousand dollars, which will
 barely cover the liabilities immediately
 pressing. We are yet on the land the
 sum of fourteen thousand dollars and

now we are without a cent to begin
 over. To put up a building such as we had
 before will cost now from 40 to 50
 thousand dollars and to collect this sum
 will be no easy matter. I do not wish
 to involve ourselves inevitably in debt
 and hence I will wait before making con-
 tracts to see what success we may hope
 for from our collectors. May we hope for
 any aid from you? There is at Bingham-
 ton in this State a very fine building
 put up as a Methodist College at an expense
 of perhaps \$60,000, which may now be purchased
 for \$15,000, a very eligible site and many
 have urged us to secure it. I will go to
 see it this week. Bishop Simon would
 not consent at all because it is not in
 his diocese, it is in the diocese of Albany
 - and certainly we owe much to Bishop Si-
 mon, who in our trying circumstances proved
 himself a friend and Benefactor. Rev. Mr. Landy
 with some of the Students went to Cape
 Girardeau, Rev. Mr. Allen to the Barrens

Rev. Mr. Dyer to St. Louis, the others
go to collect in different directions.
Next Saturday I sail from N. York for
N. Orleans to pay the Conferees a short visit
and I take Mr. More with me as far
as Havana leaving him for a few months
there to collect. I will try and write a
longer letter from Germantown before
I leave to give you fuller details that
may be interesting and I will see the
place in Binghampton so as to be able
to give an opinion on it. Please to
present my kind regards to all the Con-
ferees and recommend us to their prayers
and accept the assurance of affection
and regard with which I remain
Your hum. Serv. & devoted Conferee

Wm. A. D. C. M.

Rev. Mr. Moller C. M.



Saint Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. March 28th 1865

Rev. very dear respected Sir

Gratia D. N. sit semper nobiscum

I have reached home after a long and tiresome journey, and I hasten to send you a few lines to inform you of some matters relative to the Province. About the affairs of Niagara I have written a long letter to Mr. McNamee in which I mentioned everything that I thought would interest our Confines in Paris, so that I need only say here that we all feel most thankful for the kind and generous sympathy that has been shown by our most honored Father and the excellent and esteemed Mother General. I know of this only by hearsay for I have received no official notice of these donations, yet I hope they are all true and not mere rumor. Through good Bp. Limon, who really deserves from us some mark of grateful acknowledgment for his unexampled kindness towards us, the Rev. Pontiff with a beautiful letter has given us one thousand dollars. After examining the walls we find that with some strengthening by cross walls, they will bear the weight of the building again and thus save us some eight or ten thousand dollars. We must try to put up the centre

building along with the wing both because it will be
 needed for the community and because it will be a great
 support for the other walls. Yet this will cost a
 large sum and it is not easy to collect now. At Bing-
 hampton in the diocese of Albany a large and fine
 brick building, built and used for a short time as a
 Methodist university might be purchased for 12 or
 15 thousand dollars it must have cost fifty thousand
 and it will cost forty or fifty thousand dollars to
 rebuild our college at Niagara. I did not like to
 do anything in this way because I did not see the will
 of God sufficiently manifested, for every thing seems to
 conspire to point out Niagara as the place where
 Providence wishes us. We will await at least further
 developments and go on at Niagara, trusting a good deal
 to help from Europe. Our Collectors are refused permission
 for the present at least in most dioceses on the plea
 of local wants, yet I think in summer and next autumn
 we will get the requisite permissions. At the instance
 of many friends I sent our Confere Mr. More to Havana
 but he has already returned having failed in his object;
 as he says there is more misery on the Island than here
 and neither the civil nor ecclesiastical authorities would
 allow him to collect. In New Orleans where I spent about
 four weeks I found all the Confere doing very well.
 At St. Joseph's Mr. Hayden is truly an exemplary Confere and
 God is blessing his labor. He has built one very large school
 where he has between seven eight hundred children and now
 he is building another schoolhouse for the girls where
 the Sisters of Charity will teach. Mr. J. F. Smith who is still
 the regular Superior of Niagara and went South for his health
 is now well and giving great help to Mr. Hayden, in fact there
 was quite a commotion and piles on piles of petitions and remon-

Thence, passed in, when they heard I was about bringing him
 North. I left him until the winter season is over when most
 probably I will have to recall him to help in rebuilding
 the College and send some one to replace him there. My W^m
 W^m who was principally occupied in the Hospital was not
 quite well and the Physician advised me to give him a
 respite from hospital duty so I sent him to Donaldsonville.
 Mr. Deane was ordained before I went down, and though
 he coughs still he is getting strong and well. I
 hope recover, I cannot I am sorry say so much of another
 excellent young Conferee, Mr. W^m Kelly, sent South for his
 health, he is declining and I fear he will not last long. With
 these Conferees they have at St. Joseph's one lay brother, an
 excellent man, and a novice who entered there to be a Brother.
 At the Seminary Mr. Verina is doing well, the Sisters have
 a good house and keep a select and good school, the Christian
 Brothers have also a good school for the boys of the Parish,
 and lately he opened a very fine cemetery which he expects in
 some time to be a great source of revenue and enable him
 to build a grand new Church. Mr. Indreux is always the same
 simple and edifying Conferee, Mr. Monoline who entered down there
 is a very good young man, intense and spiritual, Mr. Beecher
 who attends the German Congregation is also good and seems
 to play. Mr. Hickey is doing very well among the people, tends
 the Eng. Congregation and has made several conversions, yet he does
 not show much piety, and is somewhat light and vain. They have
 4 Brothers and I believe nine seminarians. All have enough
 to do for besides their home duties, they have the direction
 of several establishments of the Sisters of Charity. I paid a short
 visit to Donaldsonville where our good Conferees Mr. Bag-
 lioli and Aguarone were greatly surprised to know who
 was the Superior of the house, all the letters, circulars &c.
 came addressed to Mr. Aguarone and I had appointed Mr.
 Bag. an exhorting Mr. Indreux, to act as Vice Superior.
 They are in fact both good characters, yet they are doing as
 well as could be expected and with a third Conferee to attend be-
 lieve they will get along. There is not very much to be done they
 yet they can be usefully employed. I may have given rise to the
 misunderstanding by writing that in taking away Mr. Indreux

I sent up Mr. St. Ignace, but not to take his place. You may if you choose, to put things in order send to Mr. Raglioli the Superior's patent and by the way I do not know whether you have sent them to Mr. Lyden at Germantown and Mr. St. Ignace at Cape Girardeau. If not, please to expedite them. After I left home Mr. Gleason left the house and is now occupied in a church in the city and Mr. Palmer soon lost the fever and good resolutions of his retreat and left the Bureau about a week ago without giving any warning though he had said that he would not stay with us at least by his actions. He loved lager beer too much and would not be controlled by abstinence, I know not whether he went. Mr. Burke has entered into an agreement with a wealthy company for mining purposes who propose to open a mine on our land in LaSalle, and if they go on with the work and are successful it will yield a very handsome yearly revenue. We are to get what is equivalent to 25 per cent. on every ton of coal, ore, or limestone taken out. *Violabimus infra* where this speculation will end. Mr. Rolando writes to me that he has received letters from yourself and Mr. Sturshie urging him to leave at once. I sent immediately a conference to replace him. He says also that Mr. Sturshie gives me a great scolding, I would ^{rather} he would do that to myself than through another, though I really am not conscious of deserving it in connection at least with Mr. Rolando's affair. I never opposed his leaving or put any obstacle in his way, I was ready at any time to replace him and told him so. I never was told to send him, the whole business has been transacted outside of me and I was only a spectator. I saw him reluctant to go and as I had no orders I could not urge him to go without appearing to wish to get rid of him, which I certainly was not for he is a good, pious and relieving missionary, but how suited for the post to which he is called he remains to be seen. Our Conference who were sent to California and who could not accept Bp. Smith's offers, have settled in Carson City Nevada and I will send you letters of Mr. Rubie and another of Bp. O'Connell to Mr. St. Ignace, which will give you a clear knowledge of the situation there than I could. Mr. St. Ignace is not so sick as Mr. Rubie thinks and from his own letters I would judge that he is improving. I must if possible this Spring send them one or two more Conferences. I think of calling home Mr. St. Ignace, he is old and strike years of theology may do him. If the Sup. Gen. thinks well of it I wish you would tell him to leave for home immediately after St. Vincent's day and if he is not ordained there, I would have him ordained on his arrival here. Mr. Lang is young and may remain another year.

5

On account of health you should deem it
 better for him to return also and study
 a year here, he needs improvement in English.
 I am indifferent and I will leave this to yourself.
 Now I have another matter to ask you
 though really you have not assumed second
 things which I have proposed to you in my
 letters. As the Sup. Gen. will not come
 to pay us a visit and will not send you
 to be our Visitor, might he not at this
 time send you in his own place to visit
 our province and take a tour to see our
 houses and give us the benefit of your
 counsel and experience and carry back
 to himself a full and accurate and
 detailed account of this Province. Now
 this I wish you to propose to him in
 my name and my own terms, and I really
 think that if you can be spared for
 a time, your visit will be most bene-
 ficial and much advance the interests
 of the Community here. Please to present
 to our M. H. J. my sincere sentiments of
 profound respect, submission and attach-
 ment and to all the cherished Confines of
 the Maison more my respectful regards and
 accept Rev. dear Confines, for yourself
 the assurance of high consideration &
 esteem with which I have the honor
 to be in union with the S. H. Hearts of
 Jesus & Mary immaculate
 Your most hum. and devoted Confine
 J. J. O. M.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. May 15th 1865

Dear Mr. McNamee

I regret very much the necessity that obliges me to recall you home. But the necessity exists and we must yield to it. You have heard of the sad accident by which our flourishing College at Niagara was destroyed and now you must help us to rebuild it, and alas! in our wasted and sorely tried country it will be very hard to gather the ^{means} necessary, so I must request you on your homeward journey to call on the generous people of England and Ireland and solicit contributions towards the rebuilding of "Our Lady of Angels," near the Falls of Niagara. Our Holy Father, the Pope has graciously vouchsafed to send us

one thousand dollars (\$1000.) and we confidently trust his noble example will be a spur to the generosity of the faithful. It is in our minds at least, an earnest of success and high and venerable sanction for our work. We will not easily forget our generous benefactors and now may God bless you and prosper your undertaking and bring you home safe to us with your hands full of convincing evidence of the substantial sympathy of our friends abroad.

Believe, dear Conference, in union with the S. S. Hearts of J. & M.

Your hum. Servt., & devoted Confere
 S. W. Ryan C. C. M.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. May 15th 1865

Rev. and honored Confere

Gratia D. N. sit semper notissimum

Your last favor is of March 6th.
I write you since that and doubtless
Mr. Rolando will on this have reached
Paris and given an account of him-
self and others. Mr. (Mr. Gile) I have
sent to the aid of our Conferees in
California and Mr. More has gone to
replace Mr. Smith in N. Orleans, the
latter has just arrived and is going to
direct matters again at Niagara at
least during the Summer, for he is an
excellent beggar. They are running up
the new building at Niagara very
fast and will most probably have that
wing ready to receive Students by September.
I have telegraphed to Mr. Rice and I am

respecting him daily with his plans
 so that before Mr. Smith leaves we
 may consult together and adopt
 plans for the center-building and
 for the summer campaign of collecting.
 Unless our prospects are fair we will
 not begin the center-building. By
 the way, I am very sorry to learn
 that I was deceived in my calculations
 by our good people here, who gave me
 to understand the honored Mother had
 contributed 20,000 francs towards the
 good work and now it turns out that
 it was only money deposited with her,
 which she authorized her Sisters to pay here,
 and it would seem that she wished to
 favor them at our expense, authorizing
 them to pay in currency. I wrote to
 the Sisters that if that was good Mother's
 intention I begged to decline her favor,
 and that I thought it neither genuine
 nor just in our present calamity, when

our poor Priests are running over the country trying to scrape together means to rebuild our Seminary, that they should deprive us of a cent of the money, good and generous friends in Europe are contributing to us, and that I would demand the full amount of such contributions in gold or its equivalent in currency. They have acknowledged the justice of the claims and are acting in accordance.

Mr. Mc Namara has proposed to me to let him collect in England and Ireland on his way home, I do not like much the project yet in our present position I am inclined to assent to it and now propose my views to you, leaving all to your better judgment. I would wish Mr. Mc Namara to be ordained Priest at Trinity and as soon as possible afterwards leave for Liverpool & London & Dublin & Cork where he would take shipping for America so as to be here by the 1st of September, and if he can cal

something in those cities on his way, it would help us in proportion to the amount he would collect. Mr. Loney might meet him in Cork at the close of the scholastic year and they could return together, though if Mr. Loney prefers to spend another year in Paris I have no objection.

Mm. Mr. Gise, formerly of Kelly gave two very successful Missions in the diocese of Hartford and another in Germantown the latter was not quite so richly blessed, and Mr. Dingley is going next week to gather up the gleanings during the jubilee, which in Germantown will be during the last week of May. In July we are to give a Retreat to the Clergy of St. Paul, Minn. and afterwards a couple of Missions in that diocese. We have also three Missions to give in Chicago diocese during next autumn, and Mr. Henesy is now giving a little Mission in Toronto diocese C.W. We had one of our young men ordained Priest (Mr. Wm. Moore, last Saturday week, and on that occasion our good Fr. Sp. told us that he would not be surprised if Mr. Henesy would soon get his Bulls, for he had strongly recommended him to the Holy See. So it seems they are not yet tired of Laganet Bishop. Though I told the Fr. Sp. that I thought they were rather at a discount, certainly some of them are, if not with the Holy See, at least with those over whom they preside. Yet war does will never cease. Love and respectful regards to all the Confessors and yourself in particular. your hum. Serv. Robert C. Cline

W. C. Cline



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. June 27th 1865

Rev. & very dear Congreg.

Gratia D. V. sit semper nobiscum

I have again the painful duty to perform of announcing to you the death of another young Congreg., an slave of the Province, Rev. James Piggott deceased in Germantown on the 21st inst. in the 28th year of his age and 10th of his vocation. You will please to notify the proper authorities that the usual suffrages may be offered for the repose of his soul. He has long been suffering even before his ordination from a hard and distressing cough, consumption undermining his constitution he has been able to do very little for the last few years and at length he has fallen a prey to the insidious disease

called me may trust to a better and
happier life. R. I. P.

We are now engaged in examination
and about to close studies for this
year. The Barrens & Cape are doing
the same. I have just returned from
a short visit to both places having
been at the Barrens for the purpose
of Corpus Christi. They both did very
well this year, the Cape having had
a good many students from Niagara
since the Conflagration. It will how-
ever take them all back by next
September as a wing will then be
completed and ready for occupation.
Mr. M. Gleason & Halmer have of course
now left us for good and could not
be received back even if they did
apply, especially the former who has
done all the harm he could to the
community, if their dismissal from

the Sup. Gen. will be of any advantage
 to them or help their consciences in
 any way of course I would rather
 give it to them. It seems that
 Providence has brought our Confessors
 in California back to Bishop Amat
 and they are about settling themselves
 in Los Angeles, the Bp. giving them
 in the use in perpetuum of 20 acres of
 ground and one thousand dollars
 annually on condition that they support
 and educate six students and build
 a college to receive his and other
 western students at a fair pension to
 be determined mutually according to
 circumstances. And he allows them
 to collect through the diocese in
 order to defray the expenses of building.
 Some difficulties arose between Mr.
 Rubin and Bp. Clannell which afforded
 the occasion to break at Carson City.
 Mr. McGill has arrived in California.

Here we are all about as usual.

Mr. Honey is now conducting the Retreat for the clergy in the diocese of St. Paul and Minn. Howard & Koop will join him to give a couple of missions there during vacations. Mr. Quigley & Mr. Brennan will give a mission in August in Keokuk Iowa, and we have accepted missions in the diocese of Chicago for the months of Sept. & Oct. Bp. Demaree asked us to give the Retreat to his clergy and a mission in his Cathedral, but I had to refuse owing to these previous engagements. We had our Priest, Mr. Moore ordained this year and we have not much prospect of any more for some time. Please to present my profound respects to our most honoured Father and respectful regards and kind remembrance to all the Campfires and accept, for yourself, the assurance of undiminished attachment and sincere regard from your most hum. Serv. & devoted Congreg.

Wm. J. P. C. M.

Rev. M. Mellen C. M.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. July 20th 1865

Rev. & Esteemed Conference

Gratia D. N. t. semper nobiscum

I am in receipt of your welcome favor of the 27th ult. for which please to accept my hearty thanks. If our Mr. McHester thinks that our two Students should remain another year, of course I must defer to his wishes and better judgment, yet I would be very much pleased to have Mr. McHester come home by the 1st of next September & I do assure you we need him very much. We will have to open at Niagara again with a good staff of Professors and I have promised several missions in the coming Autumn and I really do not yet see how I am going to supply all. However if another year is judged necessary for Mr. Mac, I wish not to oppose it. We have no

apprehensions here in regard to our property,
 I do not know to what degree of the
 Council of Baltimore you refer, I do not
 know of any interfering or claiming the right
 to interfere with the property of Communi-
 ties. We hold our property on as secure
 a title as the Bishops hold theirs, in this
 free country before the civil law we are
 equal and they cannot touch our property.
 After the reception of yours I spoke to our
 Most Rev. Arch. Bp. about the matter and he
 told me that he knew of no decree from
 Baltimore or Rome touching the property
 of Communities and he stated moreover
 that the Sisters ought not to give up
 their property to the Bishops, that in
 Rome they cannot understand our par-
 ticular and exceptional circumstances,
 and particular Decrees may be obtained by
 a pontifical Statement. Among the American
 people there is a great and evergrowing
 prejudice against ecclesiastical monop-

oblige large amounts of real estate and
 it is not desirable that the Bishops
 should appear in the eyes of the law as
 the proprietor of all the church prop-
 erty in the diocese. Here then neither
 ourselves nor any other community as far as
 I know have any fears from the encroach-
 ment of the Prelates. With Bp. Amat I think
 it is an idea that has got into his head
 and stuck fast there. His agreement with
 our Priests since they returned is very fair
 giving us the use in perpetuum of the
 property by written and sealed contract,
 it is sure to all intents & purposes, though
 he retains the title. We have now here
 in Mo. much more apprehension from
 the State than from the Church author-
 ities. They formed a new Constitution which
 after a hotly contested election was carried
 by a small majority, some think fraudulently,
 and it went into operation the 4th of this
 month. It requires that in order to teach

preach, marry, be a trustee in a corporation &c. & stringent oath must be taken that one has never shown by word or act any sympathy with those in arms against the Government &c. Also all church property churches, cemeteries, orphan asylums are to be taxed, no more than five acres can be held by a church, no donation or bequest can be made to any clergyman &c. These oaths no Catholic Priest in my opinion will take, not because they sympathize with rebellion but because they will not recognize the right of the State to impose conditions for the exercise of their ministry, and thereby compromise a principle upon which the State to be supreme in spiritual matters. Sixty days after the Constitution going into operation, that is about the first of Sep. is the time appointed to enforce these enactments. I cannot say how far they will attempt to coerce the clergy, but in my opinion it will be a dead letter as far as meddling with the clergy for the exercise of their official duties, if they are mad enough to attempt to carry out this law, there will be trouble, the clergy will not tamely submit in this day and country to the dictation of the civil authorities in spiritual matters and the people will not submit to any interference with the freedom of religious worship.

Please to have the enclosed sent to Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald in reply to a letter to me. If Mr. McGowan is coming let him be here by Sep. 1st, if not, please to inform me or get himself to do so at once, for I must make my arrangements for the coming year. Yesterday we had a great celebration, three warriors made their holy vows, and three good young men were received into the Novitiate. We had a solemn Mass celebrated by the Rector General and a large number of priests joined us. On Sunday we will celebrate it for the people, all the Congregations of St. Benedict's Society will go to communion in our church, I have respects to all, except the one for yourself from your most devoted
 Rev. Mr. Madden Esq., Wm. J. P. Esq.



St. Vincent's Church.

St. Louis, Mo. Sep. 3rd 1868

Rev. and very dear Brother

Gratia D.N. sit semper nobiscum

Tomorrow morning I leave for Niagara to be present at the resumption of studies on the 6th inst. and I will hastily pen you a few lines before my departure. Last Monday evening we finished our annual Retreat here in St. Louis and since then we have been busy in directing the movement of our forces to the different points, where their services would be most needed and their different qualifications most advantageously applied. I have rec^d a letter from Mr. Wm. Samara, in which he tells me that our M. H. Foster decides against any petition for his immediate return; well, I am sorry for it, but

will regard it as the will of God. Niagara will open with a full school and we should have a very competent staff of Professors there, yet they will have time left than last year, to all appearances the number of Students at the Cape will be increased and the Barrens will be full, and then I have promised Missions that will give occupation to three or four Priests for two or three months. In addition to all this we must keep at least two collecting during the coming autumn and winter, if we hope to be able to put up the entire building at Niagara which is already going up. Bp. Domene has again brought us to take charge of his Sem^y, the obstacles which prevented this consummation last year being now removed. I have answered him that for lack of subjects it is not in our power to accede to his request this year at least. Your favor dated Chicago

Apr. 17th must have lost its way, as it arrived here long after date. I was however very glad to get it and perused its contents with pleasure. Mr. Burke's coal mine, as we both anticipated, came in, but without hurting anybody, the company before the time for ratifying the agreement backed out, and left us in statu quo. Please to send the enclosed statement of our accounts with association for the relief of souls in Purgatory up to Sep. 1st 1863, to Rev. Mr. Merty. He has not yet drawn on us or told us what to do with balance of money due since last year. Today the new Constitution of the State of Mo. goes into force, in which it is prescribed that all Ministers of the Gospel, Priests, Bishops &c. cannot preach, teach, marry &c. without taking a certain oath of loyalty declaring they never aided by word or act or sympathy the late rebellion, under penalty of five hundred dollars fine or six months imprisonment in County.

jail or both. The Catholic clergy and
 some of the Protestant will take no
 notice of it and continue to discharge
 their ministerial duties, believing it an
 infringement on the liberty of worship
 guaranteed by the Constitution of the
 U. S. The civil power has no right to
 impose conditions on the exercise of
 our priestly functions as long as we
 confine ourselves to our priestly duties
 and meddle not with civil or secular af-
 fairs and violate no just constitutional
 laws of the land. We know not yet
 what may be the consequence or how
 far or in what manner the authorities
 of the State or the radical abolition of
 this radical Constitution may see fit to
 enforce this clause. We will have a
 chance of being indicted and brought be-
 fore the civil courts and then the su-
 preme court will have to decide on
 its constitutionality. We are evidently
 in the right and shall stand firm and ac-
 tually come out victorious, I have no doubt.
 I will write to you again when I get
 home, and give you the personnel of
 the houses before the end of the year.
 Please to remember me kindly to the two
 young men, present my profound regards to
 the Sup. Gen. and respects to all the Con-
 gress especially Mr. Burdette if he is
 with you. For yourself you will please
 to accept the assurance of esteem and affec-
 tion from your hum. serv. & devoted friend
 Rev. M. J. Mullen C.M.

J. Ryan D.D. C.M.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Nov. 1st 1865

It becomes my painful duty to announce to you the loss we have sustained in the person of

Rev. Patrick M^r. Menary, Sup. of the house of the Banians, deceased at St. Louis Province of

United States on the 26th day of

October 1865, 32 yrs. of age, 14, ofocation

Please to have the usual Suffrages of the Community offered for the Repose of his Soul.

W. Ryan S. P. C. M.

Thus you see another severe and deeply felt blow has been dealt to our Province. We have lost much, very much of the premature demise of this good Father, he had our entire confidence and every way seemed an officer, a man of good sense and of confidence of a noble spirit, docile, devoted, humble, sufficient, he has been suddenly and unexpectedly taken from us and we must humbly resign ourselves to the will of Heaven.

He had a severe attack of bilious fever at the Barrons after the resumption of studies and had come up to St. Louis in a state of convalescence, to recruit his strength, which had been greatly impaired. I was absent from home on some missions from which I only returned yesterday and hence my delay in forwarding to you this notice. He was regaining his health and strength and proposed returning home on Thursday, Wednesday morning he ate a hearty breakfast and went out to transact some business and before dinner was seized with a violent diarrhoea and had himself conveyed to the Sisters' hospital. Medical aid and every attention were given but before night he was pronounced in danger, Mr. Louis Zie administered the last sacraments and remained with him all night, other conferees were around his bed in the morning but at 9 o'clock Thursday morning he was no more. A telegram apprised me of the sad news, but at the close of a mission in which I had the principal part, I could not leave until the following Monday. I know not yet whom I can get to replace him at the Barrons, and hence I must await some time before presenting any one for the post.

I will now however disclose to you a matter that has long engaged our attention and on which myself and Cabell have deliberated but were unwilling to take final action. It is to give up the Sanctuary of the Barrons, retain it as house where we will be obliged to keep three or four Priests to attend to the church and surrounding districts, but transfer the Sanctuary to the Cape and thus have one good and paying establishment in this section. The reasons are that these two seminaries are too close and mutually injure each other, the Barrons is inconvenient and some think unhealthy. We have more house room and a better location at the Cape and one good establishment is enough in this quarter considering what we hope to do and can do elsewhere. For the last two years this has been

under consideration and the majority of the
 committee are in favor of the South.
 Please to bring it under the notice of the
 H. F. and advise me as soon as you can
 of his will as I must now take some
 steps.

Again, the committee advise either a division
 of the Province or to place the central house
 in the East. The West they say is not healthy
 our young men fall away in to consumption and
 many in the East have insuperable objections
 to the West and hence fewer vocations. My own
 opinion is that a division of the Province is not
 necessary, though perhaps it would advance the
 interests of the community by multiplying the
 central points, but I should like to see the
 students and voices at Germantown where we
 have a good church and a good property and only
 need a good house. I think Germantown possesses
 every thing desirable to make it an eligible site
 for a good central house. I would even advise
 to sell the property the Province owns here on
 Chatham Avenue and build up a good house in
 Germantown for a Mother house of the Province.
 One thing more, one of our students, Maurice Dawley
 does not give us satisfaction and I fear rather
 will, he does not appear to have the spirit of his
 state or disposition that will fit him to be a
 Priest, in fact I will not promote him to orders
 unless a very marked change comes over him.
 He does not ask to leave, though many, and among
 them his Directors and some of his fellow students,
 do not think that he will stay with us. He appears
 to be going on just to finish his education. He is
 not doing any positive harm, but his manners do not
 give me off hopes that he can ever be an available
 subject. What is to be done with him.

Please to answer at your earliest convenience, I
 would have sent this letter sooner, but I was
 absent from home. Last Dec. St. Francis of the same
 conception in this city was consecrated Bishop of New
 York. Throughout the state several Priests have
 been arrested for preaching without taking

the prescribed oath, they have given bail and appealed to higher tribunals. Here in the city no one has been prosecuted. The state Legislature now in session will most probably repeal the obnoxious clauses.

I fully repeat the obnoxious clause.
 Please to present my profound respects to
 our Mr. H. F. and our kind respectful regards
 to all the Congress and begging you to accept
 the assurance of undiminished affection and
 sincere esteem I have the honor to sub-
 scribe myself in union with the S. H. hearts
 of Jesus & Mary Immaculate
 Your most hum. Serv. & devoted friend
 Wm. A. B. C.

Yours most truly, Geo. W. Brown

Wm. B. B. B.

Rev. Mr. J. Moller Em.

"Is it customary and allowable to let
 Novices who have not yet completed their
 two years make their vows when dying?
 and is the permission of the Visitor necessary?
 W. C.

W. B. D.



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. St. Stephen's day 1865

Rev. esteemed Confere

Gratia D.v. sit semper nobiscum

Je vous souhaite une bonne
et bien bonne et heureuse année!

Be pleased to be the interpreter of
my best wishes and profound sentiments
of regard and filial affection to our
most honored Father at the opening of
this new year, and in the name of all
our Province I can say that from
our hearts we wish him health &
every blessing of Heaven "ad multos annos".
The enclosed personal of the Province
please to hand into the secretariat
I should have sent it before, but
I was absent from home and since
the beginning of Sep. engaged in giving
the Jubilee and missions in different
parts. I also trouble you with a note

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Stygar J. B. Em.

Rev. Mr. J. Mellen Care.

At Cape Girardeau, four of our
Catholics, viz. B. W. W., Mr. Geo.
O'Regan & D. Donoghue were indicted
by the Grand jury and arrested for
preaching without taking the oath
prescribed by the new Constitution
of our State. They gave bail for their
appearance at the next ^{court} term in
June and in the meantime they
continue to teach & preach as usual.
Several other Priests in the State have
been similarly treated, here in the City
none have been treated, simply because
the feeling of the public is so strong against
it that they could not get a grand jury
to find a bill. The case has been brought
before the Supreme Court of the U.S. and
we will soon know the decision, I hope.
Yours &c. Wm.



St. Vincent's Church.

St. Louis, Mo. Jan^y 18th 1866

Res. & esteemed Congreg.

Gratia D.N. sit semper nobiscum.

Although I wrote to you a short time ago I must again trespass on your precious time and claim your kind indulgence whilst bringing through you to the notice of our M. R. Father some matters of interest to the Province.

A short time since, M^r. Alizeri wrote to me that the Visitor of the Province of Lombardy would willingly receive him if I would give my consent and intimate that I desire to return to Italy for certain personal reasons. I answered him that I could not in conscience and in justice to the Province consent to his departure, that he was doing much good here and was much needed, that his reasons did not appear to me to be valid, that

the same difficulties he will encounter
 every where, because; "Colum non inven-
 tum mutant, qui trans mare currunt."
 He replied that if the opinion of the
 Sup. Gen. coincided with mine he would
 very willingly remain and begged it as the
 will of God, that he had made the
 request with full resignation and entire
 conformity with the will of God to be
 made known by Superiors. From this
 I infer that he has made application
 to the Sup. Gen. for permission to return
 to Italy, if this be so I hope his request
 will not be granted and I beg you to use
 your influence in our behalf. He is a
 very useful Confessor and very capable Pro-
 fessor, one of the very few who can be
 put to teach Theology with credit to
 ourselves or advantage to the Seminary.
 He is as you know now Superior at the
 Cape and is esteemed by Confessors and students.
 In a word, his loss would be severely felt and
 his place we could hardly fill just now.

Mr. Haysler from St. Orleans has been writing to me for permission to commence a church for the Germans, that the Arch-Bp. was insisting on it, that there were many Germans in his district and that he did not wish to introduce others, Redemptionists or priests to have charge of a portion of the Parish. I always refused because I had no German Priests and no likelihood in this country of getting German Priests to supply our present wants and hence I did not deem it prudent to increase our wants in that direction without any reasonable prospect of being able to meet them.

Lately the Arch-Bp. himself wrote to me urging the same matter very forcibly and pleasantly and indeed I must confess that it would be much to our advantage to be able to retain the whole of the Parish of St. Joseph and minister to the wants of the whole population. I wrote to the Arch-Bp. in reply that I would refer the matter to our M. H. Father and through him

or through you apply to our good German Con-
 gregation in Europe for help and if I could
 procure any or any promise of some future
 assistance, I would willingly send the first
 at my disposal to A. V. C. Now please to
 do this for me, with the Sup. Genl's permission
 make application to the good Minister of Prussia
 or Austria for one or two or more good Priests
 or good candidates for the Priesthood who will
 be at the same time exemplary Confessors
 and zealous missionaries. I think many of the
 German students at the maison were would wil-
 lingly come to our Province where they could
 at once enter on the duties of the ministry in their
 mother tongue with much profit to religion
 whilst learning to become more useful through
 the Eng. language. I will trust you to negotiate
 this business for us. I have left Rev. Mr. Mc Betty
 the Procurator at the Seminary as Vice Superior
 until I hear from you in regard to the propose
 made before. As yet I am always more inclined
 not to continue the Seminary after this year as an
 educational establishment. I herewith send you
 a copy of a new paper started in our city
 under Catholic auspices, how long it may
 live I know not, I could send it to you
 regularly if it would be of any interest to you.
 With many hearty expressions of kind regard
 and affectionate remembrance allow me
 to enclose it a memento of the holy
 altar and to subscribe myself

Your most hum. Serv. & devoted Congreg.

Wm. J. C. Mc.

Rev. Mr. J. Moller Esq.

P.S. Is it customary to allow novices when dying to
 make their vows? Mr.



California, de la Provincia de Estados Unidos
Mort. D. M. Asmuth

St. Vincent's Church.

33

St. Louis, Mo. Jan^y 23rd 1866

Rev. ~~William~~ Canfield

Gratia D. N. sit semper nobiscum

It becomes my painful duty to announce to
you the loss we have sustained in the person of

Rev. John Asmuth

deceased at Los Angeles in our Province.

on the 16th day of

Dec. 1865, 30th yr. of his age & 14th of his priesthood

Please to have the usual Suffrages of the Community offered for the Repose of his Soul.

I Very an. S. B. C. em.

Here, Rev. dear Canfield is, another heavy loss our Community has sustained, three dear Catholics to thin our ranks and demands our choice victims. This death though it could hardly take us by surprise, for our dear Canfield was long lingering about in suspense between life and death in the confines of the tomb, could not but deeply & painfully affect us. His loss we could appreciate because his worth we knew, and although

we mourn an attached and cherished personal friend, the sense of private personal bereavement is entirely lost in the consciousness of the severe general loss to the Province of a young Conferee of great promise, a true missionary devoted to the community and thoroughly imbued with the spirit of his holy calling. (May his soul rest in peace.) He is still our Conferee, though no longer the companion of our exile or shown in our labors, he is still the shield of St. Vincent, though now associated to that portion of the family that is called home to rest from the labors and struggles of earth and enjoy in the bosom of God the rich fruits of a life of virtue, sacrifice and religious devotedness. The satisfying details which our Mr. Gill gives us of his happy death tend not a little to lighten our sorrow in the assurance that Peter left is his gain.

About a week before his death "opposed by our two sorrowing Conferees and surrounded by the weeping sisters of charity & administered to him the consolations of our holy religion, the last sacraments which he received with more than ordinary sentiments of religion and piety..... His agony was indeed long staying, but his last end was left he received all that Holy Church imports at that critical moment to her beloved children. He renewed his holy vows and reanimated himself with the true spirit of a child of St. Vincent and was fired with the blessed morals, James, Mary & Joseph on his lips. Beatha mortui qui in Domino morantur."

I could not help thinking this morning when offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for our other departed Conferee what a happy meeting in the land of the living in the bosom of the Eternal will be that between him and God Mr. Nathan. Any who preceded him but a few months and who resembled him in so many features of the spiritual and religious life. (May their spirit be abundantly inherited by those who survive them. Yours &c. L.R.)

Montpellier 14 Janvier 1866

Monsieur le très cher Compagnon

La grâce de s'y voir avec nous pour jamais

Je viens de recevoir la nouvelle de la mort de notre cher Compagnon M^r Asmutt. Je m'empresse de vous envoyer la lettre toute entière parce que peut être M^r Devin aimera à la voir et à l'avoir. Ce pourra être un petit document pour servir dans l'avenir les mémoires sur l'établissement de la Congrégation en Californie.

Je viens de recevoir aussi des lettres de M^r Arnat et de M^r Margill du même endroit.

Bien j'ont moi et craquez moi
Monsieur et très cher Compagnon

Votre tout dévoué
M J Maller

JPM



St. Vincent's Church

St. Louis, Mo. Jan^y. 29th 1866

Rev. & Esteemed Conference

Gratia D. vixit semper nobiscum

I have just received your favor of the 27th Dec. I had previously heard of your illness and was extremely glad to be assured of your perfect recovery. Our good God has been very kind and indulgent to spare you all during the recent fearful scourge of cholera. You have doubtless seen this week my note announcing the death of another excellent and much regretted Conference and child of our Province, Rev. J. Stenuth. I send you by this mail a copy of last week's Guardian containing a short obituary notice of our lamented deceased. Our M. H. F. is very kind to leave the determination of the affairs proposed to our own prudence. His confidence, I hope, will not be abused, please to tender to him

our most grateful acknowledgements. We will do nothing hurriedly or unadvisedly, but try according to the measure of our poor ability to see what may be for the greater glory of God and the advantage of the Community and then prudently prepare the way for its accomplishment. I must inform you however that I could not in any case approve of establishing our sister house in Crumitburg. It is ~~an~~ ^{an} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ convenient, out of the way little village and as to health, if what Mr. Beaulieu and others say be true, many of our young men would not be able to endure long its very rare and keen atmosphere.

The advantage of being in the vicinity of the Mother house of the Sisters so as to enable the same person to discharge the duties of Visitor of the Congregation and Director of the Sisters I clearly perceive and greatly acknowledge, but still I would never give my consent to settle

our Mother house at Cumtching.

At Baltimore it might indeed be located and perhaps with the same advantage for unity of direction, for Balt. is near enough, and besides do not the Sisters look forward eventually to Balt. becoming their central home? Balt. is an extremely healthy, central, easy of access, and we have already a good large church and a pretty large property there, and many prefer it to Germantown, for my own part I prefer Germantown for the sake of the young men, for I think the country more beautiful, more retired, their walks and pastimes would be more agreeable, yet as far as ecclesiastical government and local church authorities are concerned I prefer Balt. We will think over the matter and I will see Mr. Beardslee before we come to any conclusion, you may write to him if you choose. As to no change being made in either of the officers until one or the

other of the present incumbents be removed
 by God's own appointment, or so. I do not
 see any reason for that delay. Mr. Burdett
 would admirably fill both offices and as for
 myself I tell you in all sincerity I would
 resign my present position and cheerfully
 enter into the ranks as a full private or assume
 any subordinate position superiors might assign,
 but never assume the direction of the station
 except compelled by obedience, for reasons
 which it is not necessary now to explain.
 As I wrote to you in my last I hope Mr.
 Rogers will not go and as far as I am con-
 cerned I will give no consent, but as before
 remain passive subject to the orders of superiors.
 I even ^{now} however certainly like to have Mr.
 Rolando back. As to that history of N. York
 I will ^{send} the matter to yourself and if you think
 it a valuable book and cheap, you may pur-
 chase it. Mr. Dawley the student of whom I
 spoke to you, has written I believe to the Sup.
 Gen. for a dispensation from his vows. I hardly
 think he will ever be a good agent and hence
 I am not averse to his withdrawal if superiors
 think his reasons sufficient, I would rather
 however be in advance with him and actually
 dismiss ^{him} than let those people think they can
 get a dispensation by writing for it, yet I do
 not know if we have sufficient reasons to send him
 away, I am glad the responsibility does not lie with
 me, I feel however that sooner or later the matter
 must come to this, and perhaps the sooner, the better
 for unless I see a great change, which I do not hope
 for, I could not promote him to order. Please
 to remember me kindly respectfully to see at the
 main more and believe in union with the
 A. Hearts of Jesus & Mary immaculate
 Your hum. Affl. devoted Confidant
 Rev. Mr. Mallen &c.

J. H. Rogers J. H. C. M.

TERRETA

St Louis 6. Avril 1844.

M^r et très honore Père.

Votre benediction soit vous plait.

Ce n'est que mon ouvrage un ^{mal} trop multiplié joint au peu de facilité que j'ai pour écrire en français qui m'a fait différer si long temps de vous faire part de la joie et satisfaction que j'ai éprouvée en recevant la nouvelle de votre élection au Général et sur tout en lisant vos lettres qui plus d'une fois m'ont fait couler des larmes de joie. Je suis vraiment touché voyant avec quel intérêt l'assemblée s'est occupée des moyens de rétablir la bonne intelligence parmi les membres de la Congrégation et d'y faire resourdre le spirit de notre St Fondateur. Je ne saurais comment vous peindre les sentiments que j'éprouve en voyant votre paternelle sollicitude, et le pieu devoir pour tous vos enfants; je tremaille de joie voyant votre zèle pour toutes les pratiques et usages qui ont fait la gloire et le bonheur de nos Pères. Il est à Dieu que vous puissiez avoir la consolation de voir toutes vos espérances accomplies.

Il n'est pas besoin que je vous exprime mon assentiment aux les différentes propositions que vous recommandez; cependant je ne puis pas m'empêcher de vous dire que les règles du conseil observées comme vous le désirez; m'apparaissent d'une extrême importance; car je pourrais vous dire à ce propos, que dans les différentes maisons où j'ai demeuré soit en Europe, soit en Amérique, j'ai observé que là où il y règne plus la bonne intelligence entre les Confères, et où les supérieurs font avec plus de succès, ces sont là les maisons où le conseil est plus souvent tenu. Parmi les maisons dont je pourrais vous faire plus d'éloge c'est le séminaire de St Sébastien, je suis en toujours touché de la bonne harmonie qui s'y avait entre les Confères, et aussi de la bonne direction du séminaire, mais j'ai aussi observé que le Supérieur recevait régulièrement et même extraordinairement le conseil. Dans cette province j'ai observé dans les différentes maisons où j'ai demeuré que les conseils sont très négligés, et peut être que c'est aussi le défaut une de principales causes qu'il arrive souvent que l'un flait, et un autre contre fait, et dans d'autres occasions un regarde avec indifférence les intérêts de la communauté.

Il faut, mon très honore Père, que je vous communique un autre sujet d'une bien grande joie pour moi. Après avoir passé si long temps sans pouvoir me livrer à aucune de mes fonctions, par même à l'étude, à cause de ma faiblesse, elle est maintenant si bien rétablie qu'elle surpasse mon attente. Dans les vacances M^r Struat m'envoya à ce séminaire pour remplacer M^r Ceru qui devait descendre au Barrons. Comme je lui disais que j'aurais avoué du temps pour m'appliquer à l'étude de l'Anglais, il me répondit, vous aurez une belle occasion, car il n'y aura pas des Philosophes, et moi quant à moi, je ferai les classes de Théologie, ainsi vous aurez peu à faire, mais la providence tourna les choses bien différemment. Avant le commencement de classes se présentèrent deux nouveaux séminaristes pour les Philosophie, et il y en avait un autre qui ne la connaissait pas assez, ainsi j'ai dû la leur enseigner. Je ne sçais s'il y avait un moine avant, quand M^r Struat arriva voyant l'état de la maladie qui l'avait mis au Barron, comme il était encore trop faible pour

faire la classe de Théologie, il m'empêcha de m'en charger en attendant qu'il fût rétabli; il est vrai qu'il voulait charger un des Séminaristes de faire la classe de Philosophie afin de ne pas me charger. Cependant, comme nous espérons qu'il serait bientôt rétabli j'ai pu la classe de Théologie en faisant une classe par jour et continuant celle de Philosophie; comme la convalescence de M^r Amat s'est prolongée plus que nous croyions j'ai continué ainsi jusqu'à l'arrivée de M^r Simon qui fut au commencement de Janvier. Alors M^r Mamou qui était monté de la Louisiane ou était devenu M^r Amat après de se rétablir, prit la classe de Morale, et quoique j'ai continué le Dogme et Philosophie, je suis beaucoup sollicité, car je n'ai pas le loisir de l'annoncer à préparer. Pendant tout ce temps je me suis porté assez bien, seulement j'ai senti quelques fois l'absence de patience pendant quelques jours, mais en m'occupant dans l'étude et prenant autant d'exercice qu'il m'était possible je me suis remis. Actuellement je me sens assez fort, aussi je suis rempli de joie voyant que je puis me livrer au travail, grâces en soit rendu à la divine providence. Je ne saurais vous exprimer les sentiments de bonheur que éprouve mon cœur, quand je compare le temps que j'avais passé dans l'infirmité, et presque sans espoir d'en sortir, avec l'état présent. Puis-je être fidèle à correspondre à un si grand bienfait en me consacrant tout entier pour la gloire de Dieu.

Je ne vous parle pas de la maladie de M^r Amat parce que je ne doute pas que vous en êtes instruit; seulement j'ai à vous dire que son absence est bien nuisible au Séminaire. Avant l'arrivée de M^r Simon, les Séminaristes avaient eu une seule instruction spirituelle, ce n'a été que la semaine avant Noël qu'on s'est décidé de leur donner la retraite du commencement de l'année. Il est vrai qu'on s'occupait sur ce qu'il y avait six Séminaristes malades sans cesse que nous en avions; mais j'ai persuadé que M^r Amat ne les aurait pas laissés si long temps sans les secours spirituels. Comme nous sommes obligés de fournir les habituels Séminaristes, ils sont allés à faire des plaintes à l'Evêque mais comme heureusement il est très bon pour nous, il ne les a pas écoutés quoiqu'il n'aima pas qu'on soit si chiche, car leurs plaintes n'étaient que trop fondées; il y en avaient qui étaient obligés de se mettre en habit de deuil pour se garantir du froid, parce qu'il n'avaient qu'une seule robe de chambre d'autres qui étaient littéralement déchirées, moi-même j'avais besoin d'une robe de chambre d'hiver ce n'a été qu'à moitié de l'année quand je lui obtins. Etant empêché de sortir à promener si le temps était trop froid. Depuis l'arrivée de M^r Simon les Séminaristes ont régulièrement l'instruction toutes les semaines, et pour le reste tout va aussi bien; mais je le répète encore la présence de M^r Amat est à désirer.

On disait qu'il remonterait à Pâque, mais nous sommes déjà à la quinzaine et on n'entend rien, M^r Mamou qui d'après ce qu'on lui avait dit, devait descendre à reprendre son poste de Donelson n'en connaît rien lui-même, au contraire il y a qui disent qu'on veut encore le renvoyer, j'en serais bien étonné, car j'ai de la peine à voir dans sa santé une raison suffisante pour l'envoyer si long temps la Mission sans succès. car on dit qu'il est rétabli depuis long temps, et du reste je ne croyais pas que ce soit le climat qui a nu à sa santé, la preuve en est qu'il y avait trois années qu'il était dans ce pays sans avoir été malade. Sa maladie était certainement la fièvre qui régnait alors dans le pays, mais la Louisiane n'en était pas plus libre que celui-ci; et s'il l'a éprouvée plus

forte que bien d'autre s'est peut-être l'effet de la fatigue qu'il a éprouvée l'année
dernière. N'étant obligé de faire les deux classes de Théologie, les instructions aux
seminaristes avec le travail de la direction d'une nouvelle maison et très malade;
en outre il était chargé de la direction de la communauté ou il donnait
une instruction toutes les semaines et par fois il prêchait encore aux fidèles dans
notre Eglise; mais actuellement si tant l'exige pourrait se restreindre à faire la
classe de morale comme le fait M^r. Marnon.

Enquand aux conseils nous l'avons tenu une seule fois pendant cet automne
ou nous avons traité des seminaristes qu'il fallait ordonner. Pour les graves
affaires qui concernent l'achat de la maison dont vous êtes sans doute instruit, et
l'Eglise dont nous avons placé la première pierre le dimanche de la Passion, et
sur la manière de s'occuper avec M^r. Baugnot l'Evêque, j'ai arrêté trois fois à une
époque de conseil, mais comme je me suis aperçu que l'avis s'était demandé, qu'
à ceux dont on le commandait d'avance, je ne le regarde pas comme un conseil,
et je pense que M^r. Charron l'a traité avec d'autres s'est pourquoi je ne vous
en dit pas plus. Le terrain qu'on a acheté est dans une belle situation et
assez grand pour y faire un beau établissement; mais la maison quoi qu'elle soit
très belle pour des bourgeois, elle est trop belle, et trop peu commode pour une communauté.

Je finis, mon très honore Père, en vous témoignant la plus vive reconnaissance
pour le faveur que vous m'avez accordée l'année dernière en venant à ma Mère
la somme qu'on m'avait promise pour son secours. J'ai reçu la nouvelle qu'
elle l'avait reçu, et bientôt après j'ai reçu aussi la douloureuse nouvelle
de sa mort, ainsi elle n'a plus besoin que des prières pour le repos de son âme, n.p.r.

Je vous serai encore bien vivement reconnaissant si vous voulez bien m'accor-
der le faveur de me permettre de recevoir quelques honoraires de Mère, car
j'aurais besoin d'acheter quelques livres, et je ne puis pas attendre que la
communauté me les achète, je desirerai aussi acheter une montre, car la mienne
s'est dérangée, et on me fait de difficultés pour l'arranger en disant que
c'est trop de dépenses que de faire arranger des vieilles montres, et comme
je n'ai pas assez d'argent pour en acheter une, je m'en passe, ainsi si vous
voulez m'accorder cette permission je vous serai extrêmement obligé. Du reste
elle m'ira peu à la maison, car la plus part du temps nous n'avons point
d'honoraires; mais j'espère trouver le moyen de m'en faire envoyer d'Europe
pour ces que vous jugerez à propos de m'accorder. Prenez les hommages
de mon respect le plus profond et filial avec lequel je suis

M^r et très honore Père

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur

Jean Sorreth Ind. P. D. L. C. D. L. M.

10 France 25
Mr

Mr Etienne Supérieur General
de la Congregation de la Mission à
St Lazare rue de Serres N° 95.

Liverpool

Paris

St Louis 15 Juin 1845

M. Serreta

1845

M^r et Mrs honoree Pere

Votre bien bon si vous plait.

Vous aurez le plaisir d'apprendre que cette année notre Seminaire va
 se assez bien, tous les Seminaires sont tres content tous ont presen-
 te excepte un de 50 ans qui est resté par ce qu'il était trop vieux pour ap-
 prendre la Theologie; un de ceux memes qui l'annee dernier etait sorti pour
 d'instanter, rentrees a été admis de nouveau et se conduit tres bien. Il y en eut un
 qui fut ordonné Pretre dans le mois d'octobre, il est pleuré d'une manière de
 la ville en y exerçant le ministère avec beaucoup d'applaudissement et sept
 depuis que la reputation d'un des meilleurs predicateurs de la ville. Il est
 nité deux autres ont été aussi ordonnés Pretres, ils sont placés à la Cathédrale ils y
 ont prêché avec beaucoup de satisfaction de M^r l'Evêque et des Religieux, ceux
 ci disent, maintenant nous voyons ce qu'on fait au Seminaire; qu'ils disent ils
 des jeunes Pretres qui s'acquittent des fonctions mieux que des vieux pretres,
 ces sont la les fruits du Seminaire, nous en recommançons maintenant l'impor-
 tance de plus à la même ordination un autre a été ordonné Diacre, et deux
 autres Subdiaques, outre ces dont je vient de parler nous avons quatre autres
 les ministres, voilà tous ce que renferme notre Seminaire.
 Je ne propose du Seminaire je crois qu'en qualité de consultant de la maison
 il est convenable, que je vous expose mon avis sur l'affaire de bâtir dont vous
 a déjà parlé M^r Plazo et dont il veut vous parler encore. Je voudrais d'a-
 bord, mon tres honoree Pere, que nous avons vraiment besoin d'une nouvelle
 maison, car celle que nous habitons est trop petite et peu commode pour la
 communauté. Tout notre local se réduit à 8 grande chambres dont une se re-
 serve, une autre pour la salle de classe de classe et d'exercice pour les semina-
 ristes, et la premiere se re-serve de classe pour l'enseignement pour les semina-
 ristes, soit enver les étrangers quand M^r Timon est ici nous sommes obligés de nous
 mettre deux dans une même chambre, si quelqu'un des seminares est tombé malade
 il faut qu'il reste dans le même dortoir parce que nous n'avons pas de place pour
 infirmerie en outre si notre maison est plus vaste il y auraient quelques
 personnes qui commencent d'introduire l'usage seminaire la retraite, et on dit
 aussi qu'il y a des Evêques des Diocèses qui n'ont pas encore de seminaire qui nous envoient
 de seminares.

Par ce point de vue nous il est vrai que nous n'avons pas d'argent, mais en lou-
 ant cette maison que nous habitons nous pourrions en tirer assez ou presque assez
 pour payer l'intérêt de la somme que nous faudrait pour bâtir un grand seminaire
 où nous pourrions loger, nous avons encore un terrain se pare de celui très bien situé, et

qui peut nous suffire pour payer l'intérêt de cinq mil livres que nous devons
à la maison de Barragan et pour suppléer encore à ce qui manquait au revenu
de la maison. Et dans dix ou douze ans si on nous en vend un nouveau de ce der-
nier terrain et payer le capital que l'on dirait emprunté, et ne serait pas né-
cessaire de beaucoup en verser, car selon toute apparence il sera alors d'une valeur
beaucoup plus considérable qu'actuellement.

On a parlé encore de vendre la maison qui serait de vendre la maison que nous
habitons, mais moi il ne semble qu'il n'est pas convenable de la vendre. En la ven-
dant notre terrain serait réduit à peu près à la même étendue de l'autre terrain
de 300 pieds carré, ou nous étions auparavant, et que si l'on nous donnait tout
entier, car on trouvera difficilement qui achète actuellement la maison, sans
ceder du terrain pour le jardin, et comme cette maison 60 pieds éloignée du bord
de notre terrain il faudrait encore verser ces 60 pieds avec la profondeur
d'usage, car il nous servirait fort peu étant de la sorte, ce serait d'abord une des-
avantage qu'on envisagerait en l'achetant. En second lieu on s'exposerait
à être troublé par nos voisins, car des croix de cette maison et d'autres qui
pourraient être dans le terrain vendu on pourrait voir et même entendre tout
ce que nous faisons et disons dans notre cour et jardin. Je ne puis pas concevoir
comment l'idée de vendre peut entrer dans la tête de ceux qui ont été les auteurs
de l'achat, puisque la principal raison, et presque la seule raison qu'on alléguait
pour acheter ce terrain, préférentiellement à l'autre que nous avions pour rien, c'est
parce que l'autre se trouve devant une place destinée à un marché, et si on
vend la maison et terrain en question, qui sait si on ne le convertira en des
fabrique ou d'autres usages qui pourraient nous porter plus d'inconvénient
que le marché même, attendu la proximité il nous serait plus difficile de nous
en délivrer que nous ~~pourrions~~ d'éviter de troubles du marché.

Il est vrai qu'il n'y a personne de ceux qui sont du conseil de la maison qui soit
actuellement de l'avis de vendre; M^r Rado lui-même actuellement ne parle que de louer
la maison; mais craint que si lui et M^r Timon sont forcés de vendre à eux que
il viendra quelque circonstance les fera changer facilement d'avis. C'est la raison
des mes craintes. Quand on traitait d'acheter je disais il faut faire bien
attention si la maison pourra nous convenir pour la commodité, car si elle nous
ne nous convient pas après on s'en verra en bâtir une, et comme elle est trop
belle et pour l'habitation on s'en verra la vendre, et alors notre emplacement
ne vaudra guère mieux que ce que nous avons, on me répondit qu'on ne
la vendrait jamais, eh bien, à peine nous étions en possession, que ceux qui a-
vaient été les plus pressés pour l'achat voyant clairement qu'elle ne pou-
vait nous servir que momentanément disaient qu'il faudrait l'avoir pour faire
de l'argent pour en bâtir une autre. M^r Rado avant qu'il fût sup. en ve-
nant à l'appui de M^r Timon et d'autre qui n'étaient d'avis de la vendre
disait que si jamais on venait à traiter sérieusement de la vendre il conviendrait
à fin de l'emprunter; mais depuis qu'il est sup. et qu'il a envie de bâtir semble
regarder comme petit les inconvénients qui auparavant lui paraissaient
grands. Mais ce qui est plus expressif c'est que M^r Timon à peu près un mois
avant de partir pour l'Europe sans aucune récession nous dit, qu'on lui avait
offert de lui acheter notre maison avec le terrain qui y est joint depuis une rue
jusqu'à autre et jusqu'à tout de notre terrain (qui 100 pds) de front sur 250 de
fond, et il nous demanda ce que nous en pensions. M^r Rado se proposa pour ven-

dre la maison avec la moitié de terrain en question. M^r Buck et M^r Fiquary
qui s'étaient mis en passant applaudièrent le projet de vendre soit la moitié soit
le terrain en question tout entier. M^r Dambien fut des deux sans se prononcer
pour ni contre, pour moi je me suis prononcé clairement contre alléguant les rai-
sones suivantes: M^r Timon ne manifesta par quelle était sa décision. Trois
ou quatre jours après M^r Pothu me dit qu'il venait de recevoir votre réponse
négative pour bâtir. Pour moi, quoique je juge convenable de bâtir, si on le peut
sans de graves inconvénients, je me suis réjoui de cette nouvelle parce que j'étais
sûr qu'on ne passerait pas en avant la vente, et qu'ainsi du moins il y aurait
le temps de vous exposer l'affaire. Comme cette maison en conforme deux cha-
cun bien disposée pour une famille, je crois que si on veut absolument, et l'on trouve, on
pourrait en vendre une avec les 60 pieds qu'il y a depuis le côté de la maison jusqu'à
la rue sans céder de fond derrière la maison; de cette manière il n'y aurait pas beaucoup
d'inconvénients, car la maison qui resterait à votre disposition ferait que nous irions par la
côté sur notre nez maître nous, et une petite addition qu'il y a derrière celle qui vendrait
derrobait notre cour de la rue vue derrière de l'autre, mais dans ce cas on n'en tirerait
aucun prix actuellement, en sorte que je crois qu'il est plus avantageux d'attendre quand
cette partie de ville sera plus élevée, et alors je crois qu'il est mieux de la garder tous
jours pour en tirer un revenu annuel, et cette une autre avantage que je en-
visage en ~~me~~ ne vendant rien du terrain, car plus tard on pourrait peut-être ba-
tifier une maison à côté de la rue de façon à ne priver de peu de terrain à dérober les
voies de la rue de notre cour, et au même temps on créerait un revenu annuel.
J'ai recommandé à vos frères et sœurs de me reconnaître à celle de la communauté
de Confesseurs et aussi de nos Sœurs de la charité pendant que je suis avec
le plus profond respect

M^r et très honoré Père

votre très humble et
votre très obéissant serviteur

Jean Servet Th. P. D. M. C. J. L. M.

la maison

11/2/11
11/2/11
France

M^r
M^r Etienne Supérieur Gen de la Congre-
gation de la Mission rue de Serres N^o 35

Paris.

St Louis 15 Juin 1826.

Monsieur et très cher confrère

La grace de N. S. soit toujours avec nous

Comme M^r Roux Prêtre de cette Diocèse va à partir pour la France je m'empresse de profiter de cette belle occasion pour avoir le plaisir de vous écrire quelques mots. Je vous prie d'abord de rendre les services que vous pouvez à bon Monsieur porteur de ma lettre, car il est un vrai ami de Lazariste, et d'ailleurs il est digne de regard, c'est un Missionnaire digne de ce nom c'est Prêtre qui faisait plus de bien dans cette Ville aussi il était estimé de tout le monde aussi bien du clergé que des simples fidèles et bien des personnes vont de l'avis de le voir partir.

Ma santé continue toujours assez bien; cette année je n'ai pas tant de travail que les deux années précédentes, je n'ai du faire qu'un drape de dogme par jour et une classe d'écriture 1^{re} par semaine recepit pendant deux mois dans j'ai eu deux classes par jour à cause de l'absence du Professeur de Moral.

Vous savez sans doute que notre Eglise a été connue aussitôt après le retour de M^r Simon d'Europe; elle est simple mais magistrale tout le monde la regarde comme la plus saine de St Louis, et beaucoup de personnes croient qu'il n'y en a guère dans les Etats unis qui imitent autant le culte Catholique. Dans notre Séminaire nous avons deux Lazaristes dont quatre sont de Monseigneur Odin qui après avoir passé cinq mois avec nous est parti Mardi dernier pour le Texas en laissant les deux Prêtres français avec trois autres Séminaristes au Barcains à fin qu'ils apprennent l'Anglais avant de se rendre au Texas. M^r Ligarda et Monsieur Bugnet sont à la Séminaire pour pouvoir se rendre au Mexique pour apprendre à cause de la guerre qui est commise. Vous le savez sans doute. C'est un dommage pour notre nouvelle Mission du Mexique et ce serait vraiment un malheur que cette Mission devienne à abandonner; car selon tout apparence la Congrégation pourra s'y établir plus solidement que nous les hommes d'un

les états unis. et on y pourra exercer plus facilement les fonctions propres de notre institution. Et du reste tout le monde convient que le Mexique a un grand besoin soit de Missionnaires des Seminaires et peut en attendre du succès, car on dit que le peuple est très attaché à la Religion; mais il y a beaucoup de corruption, et en bien des endroits il y a beaucoup des Prêtres qui au lieu d'établir la Religion ils la détruisent par leur conduite tout à fait scandaleuse. Je l'ai appris par des Mexicains mêmes. Il y a quelque temps que je m'attendais de jour en jour d'y être envoyé; car on m'avait que Monseigneur l'Evêque de retire d'ici tous les Espagnols pour les envoyer en Espagne ou au Mexique, et vraiment je n'en serais pas fâché car je crois que la Congrégation y pourrait faire plus de bien qu'ici; et du reste je pourrais exercer plus facilement le ministère à cause de la langue. Je finis en vous priant de présenter mes hommages les plus respectueux à notre très Honoré Père et mes amitiés les plus sincères à tous nos Confrères de Paris. Je vous prie aussi de vous souvenir de moi dans vos prières et de me écrire dans l'amour de N^s.

Votre tout dévoué Confrère
et sincère Ami

J. Ferrer. T. D. L. C. L. M.

M^r Perret St Louis

15 Juin 1846

Quelques Détails Sur l'établissement
de monnaie aux Etats unis

Monsieur
Monsieur Salvage Notre Lazard
à St Louis rue de Larcen n. 25.

Paris

Perre

S^t Louis 19 Mai 1845.

Mon très cher Confère et ami

La grace de N. S. soit toujours avec vous

Je m'empresse de profiter de l'occasion qui se me présente pour vous écrire quelques lignes, mais je ne serai pas si long comme je voudrais, parceque M^r. Cimarron est parti, je ne pas pu écrire à temps, parceque il y a seulement deux jours que j'ai connu son départ, et j'étais très occupé à préparer les leçons qui ont été ordonnées avant hier, et me préparer même pour faire de Maître de l'ordination, hier encore les nouveaux Prêtres nous donnaient une occupation en sorte qu'il ne m'a pas resté le soir pour écrire. Vous saurez mon cher ami que ma santé va parfaitement bien, grâce à Dieu, quoique parfois j'ai eu mal de la tête. Depuis le commencement de l'année j'ai eu régulièrement la classe de Philosophie, et une fois par semaine la classe d'écriture 1^{re} et de Rituel, et depuis l'agne j'ai dû me charger des registres de la Cour à cause d'une absence nécessaire de l'écuyer. Il y a trois semaines que M^r. Malo Sup. et un autre Confère tomberont malades au même temps, en sorte que excepté la paroisse, tout ce qu'il y a à faire au séminaire tombait sur moi, heureusement que M^r. Cimarron arriva au même temps, grâce à la divine Providence il s'est rétabli, quoique faible, actuellement M^r. Burk vient de me dire qu'il sent venir de nouveau la fièvre, et M^r. le Sup. est encore trop faible pour ses classes de Théologie, ainsi il est probable, qu'il faudra m'en tirer comme je pourrai encore quelques jours.

Notre Séminaire va avec bien cette année, parmi les Séminaristes
 il y en a ~~un~~ seulement un de Malais pariant presque toujours. Tous sont
 bien content, quoique le nombre est bien petit, au commencement
 de l'année ils étaient onze il y en eut un qui est sorti faute de
 vocation un au autre a été ordonné Prêtre il y a un mois, à l'or-
 dination d'avant hier il y en a eu deux autres ordonnés Prêtre,
 un Diaire, et deux Soudaies. Dans ce pays il y a bien peu
 d'aspirans au sacerdoce; mais le Petit Séminaire Diocésain qu'on
 a établi en attirera à l'avenir des aidants, il renferme déjà dix
 huit petites Séminaristes. Je n'ai plus du temps. Je vous prie de vouloir
 bien présenter mes respects les plus profonds à notre très honore Père
 ainsi que mes amitiés les plus fraternelles à tous nos Confrères
 en particulier à Messieurs Enarra et Sarda ainsi qu'à Messieurs
 Ober et Mauriac. et si vous avez l'occasion de voir ou écrire à
 M^r Peyrac et M^r Canguet rappelez moi à leur souvenir et
 dites leur que j'attends quelque petite réponse au lettres que
 j'ai leur adressées pour celles de M^r Peyrac y a passé avec du
 temps pour recevoir de réponse mais je ne lui ai pas encore reçu. S'il
 vous ^{plait} pour moi, et croyez moi dans les sentiments de l'amitié le
 plus confraternelle. pendant que je vis

M^r

Votre très dévoué Confrère
 et très humble serviteur

J. Sorreata Ind. Prêtre de l'Ordre de l'Église.

Dites lui si vous plaît à notre très honore Père que
 malgré moi je n'ai pas eu le loisir de lui écrire, mais
 tâcherai de remplir mon devoir sur ce report bientôt.

M. Serra - A. Loin.

19 Mai 1844.

- Occupation au Gr. Am^e

M^r Salvaire & Co
la Congrégation. A. M.

D^r
Lain

placía al Gobierno de este obediencia, amando, y en tal caso habiendo reflexado que
 V. tendría justa razón según las instrucciones que he recibido del Sup. G. por lo
 a lo cual aun sin decir que he visto el dicho original a los J^{tes} Párragos y Terce-
 nes; pero luego que yo le hubi manifestado como yo había recibido una carta
 de V. sobre el dicho asunto dice: tampoco hay Personar que se me enter en lo
 que son los portadores, yo se bien que les son las instrucciones del Sup. G. que he recibido
 sobre esto: aquí corto y mudo de sujeto procurando a cubrir la pena que resiste: yo le
 digo esto afin que V. procure en exercisingle dar las razones para destinar la nota
 de poco cantidad sobre este particular que ha sido una necesidad de la vida de él, y también
 me pague convenientes que V. sepa. Y manifestar que yo se lo haya acordado. Des-
 pués de haber hablado con poco de tiempo diciendo que no era conveniente de-
 ir a aquella Misión hasta que se viere el suceso de la dicha guerra, me preguntó si yo
 deseaba ir, yo le respondí que si estaba en mi enojamiento y lo prefería sin por
 el evita de decirme si yo estaba destinado, o no: en fin me dice de responder a V.
 que elejiré las ordenes que ha recibido del Sup. G. y que la misma motivo
 le han impedido a V. de ir allá, le han impedido a el de ejercer. Me pague con
 grande exultación el mismo espíritu y se me da una mejor si lo pudiese hacer, porque
 hay tantas dificultades en la misma, que aunque el Sup. G. determinara
 con antes no llegue aquí la decisión sobreviene un accidente que sostiene la petición
 de otra contraria.

El dicho J^{te} Visitador devuelve a V. las mismas fraternales expresiones, y le
 estimare que me tenga presente en sus oraciones, y dispense, y cuanto de se
 maraffe. N^o y S. S. q. S. M. B.

Francisco Serrata Fr. S. de la Orden de

Nouvelle-Orléans 25 N^{bre} 1846

M^r et très honore Pere

Votre benediction si vous plait

Après l'arrivée de M^r Figueroa dans ce pays il m'a écrit une en me disant que vous m'aviez destiné pour la Mission des Mexiques, et que vous me aviez déjà dans le Mexique même, et me priant de lui dire si j'avais de difficulté pour y aller, sur quoi j'ai du lui répondre que je n'avais pas encore reçu aucune nouvelle officielle de votre volonté, mais que j'étais encore pour y aller aussitôt que votre volonté me serait légitimement signifiée. Selon le désir de M^r Figueroa j'ai aussi parlé sur ce sujet à M^r Timon, qui m'a d'abord répondu, qu'il était vrai qu'il devait en envoyer quelques-uns, mais qu'il n'était pas encore décidé sur le sujet qu'il enverrait; après quelques jours il m'a notifié que c'était la volonté que j'allasse au Mexique. C'est pour quoi je suis déjà en route, et je suis content d'y aller parceque je crois que là il y aura un champ plus propre pour y exercer les fonctions propres de la Congrégation, que dans le pays où nos fonctions sont communes avec tous le reste du clergé, je suis content de quitter de cette province des états unis, parceque je commençais d'être dégoûté de voir les dévotions, le peu de bonne intelligence, et beaucoup de profiter miserer parmi les membres de cette province, qui mettaient la vocation en danger. Cependant je dois vous dire. Mon très honore Pere, que je veux au Mexique avec une espèce de encouragement, parceque je sais que je ne possède pas les talents dont il me semble devraient être doués les Confères de cette Mission là, car vous j'ai entendu dire il faudrait la prêcher et au peuple et au clergé, et je n'ai presque jamais prêche, et en outre je ne me sens guère de facilité pour cela, et qui augmente encore mon encouragement est que je vois que parmi les sujets qui doivent commencer cette Mission là il n'y en a qu'un seul qui possède le talent de la prédication, qui est M^r Sans selon j'ai entendu dire. M^r Hermengolgeron qui possède beaucoup d'excellentes qualités d'un Missionnaire, est inférieure dans le talent de la chaire, et les autres quatre

nos hommes encore malades, de sorte que je n'ai guère d'espérance que nous pourrions bien venir dans l'établissement de cette intéressante Mission; reprenant puisque c'est la volonté de Dieu j'y veux en me confiant à sa divine providence, et je tâcherai de faire ce que je pourrai en attendant que vous nous envoyez d'autres ou bien plus propres pour bien établir la Mission.

Il y a long temps que j'étais tenté de vous écrire quelques observations pour le bien de cette province de notre pays, mais sachant que plusieurs autres vous auraient écrit sur ce sujet je le différais de un temps à l'autre, et enfin j'étais décidé de ne plus le faire croyant inutile mes observations; mais une mon départ quelques uns des mes confrères de la même province m'ayant prié de le faire m'y suis en fin décidé. C'est pourquoi dans la suite une du bien de la Congrégation dans cette province je crois, mon très Honorable Père, devoir vous dire que je suis d'avis avec les plus part de nombreux de la province, que votre vigne par vous même, ou par quelque autre Européen de votre confiance vaudrait un très grand intérêt, non de neuvaine pour cette province; par ce que par lettres on n'est capable de vous donner une juste idée de l'état de la Congrégation dans ce pays attendu la diversité de difficulté qui se présentent ici, et la diversité des sentiments de l'Ordre. Les uns pensent que le collège est la ruine de la Congrégation, soit à cause de dépenses, soit parce qu'il fait perdre l'esprit de la Mission au Collège; d'autres prétendent que le Collège est nécessaire pour faire le bien dans ce pays, et pour avoir de ressources pécuniaires. Ces derniers disent que ce sont les paroisses qui font perdre l'esprit aux sujets, et qu'ainsi elles font la ruine de la Congrégation; cela vient que l'administration des paroisses est le meilleur moyen de faire le bien, et d'avoir de ressources temporelles pour subvenir, et disent que si on se restreignait à n'avoir que des séminaristes on s'exposerait à être bientôt chassés de ce pays à cause des dépenses; mais ne sont pas une propriété de la Congrégation, et que d'ailleurs c'est bien peu le bien qu'on y fait attendu que les séminaristes sont très si peu nombreux.

Il y en a qui sont d'avis de se restreindre à la direction de petits et grands séminaires avec l'administration d'une paroisse adjointe à chacun; d'autres pensent qu'il vaudrait mieux de n'avoir point du tout des paroisses, et pour avoir une commune plus nombreuse, outre les Prêtres qui sont menés pour la direction des séminaires, y mettez deux ou trois originaux sujets de s'en aller en Mission deux ou trois en semble, ou même un seul suivant que le besoin le requiert, et l'Evêque le jugerait à propos, et de temps en temps revenir au séminaire pour se retenir dans l'esprit de la vocation. Il y en a qui aiment de crier et remuer tout inégalement ce que font les Supérieurs, et d'autres qui ne se soucient que de leur bien être.

Après tout ce qui y a de certain est un mécontentement presque universel. Tous conviennent qu'il est nécessaire que la Congrégation prenne une marche mieux ordonnée que celle qu'elle suit actuellement. Tous les monde se plaignent de tant des doctes, les Supérieurs se plaignent des inférieurs et les inférieurs des Supérieurs. Presque personne a confiance en M^r Timonny en son conseil excepté en M^r Buchs et quelques un en M^r Estimat, mais il y en a beaucoup qui n'y en ont pas, en M^r Plaho et M^r Zambon je n'ai entendu personne qui en aient. La Congrégation a perdu beaucoup et dragne année par année dans l'estime des Evêques. L'Evêque de S. Louis qui était un des ceux qui nous aimaient le plus, et qui ne faisait rien sans consulter M^r Timonny quand il le pouvait semble maintenant en faire très peu de cas et encore moins de M^r Plaho.

Une autre difficulté pour acquiescer sous une exacte connaissance de la provenance par des lettres est que quelques uns des qui vous écrivaient avec confiance ne vent pas vous écrire crainte de vous mettre dans une fausse des chaires, et il y en a aussi qui ne veulent vous écrire, et si que fait qu'ils y sont obligés le font faire, le vous diront peu de chaire crainte que les lettres seront montrées à M^r Timonny, car il y de raisons qu'on le fait ainsi à Paris.

Les sont les observations que j'ai eu devant Dieu convenables de vous faire afin de vous faire entrevoir combien votre visite serait utile et je suis convenu que les Confesseurs la voyent avec plaisir et s'y soumettent car il ne faut pas croire que les mœurs de cette provenance arrivent par un esprit de méchanceté, ou mauvaise intention. C'est plutôt par un zèle trop excessif. En attendant je me recommande à vos prières et celles de la communauté de Paris, et je vous prie de me croire dans les sentiments du plus profond et plus filial respect.

M^r et très honore Père
votre très humble
et fier obéissant serviteur
Jean Cécile Pêtre d. S. C. d. M.

SHAW



Murphy, Ball.

St. Mary's Seminary,

Perryville, Perry Co. Mo.

Feb. 14th

1862

Rev. & Very dear Comrade

Gratia D. J. C., sit sanctus & solus eius

It is an almost inconceivable
happiness for us children of St. Vincent & Co.
never met one another as brother & brother
- to share the same another our little inquietudes
from time to time that we may be solaced
and if necessary that a remedy may be applied
to the wound from which we suffer.

Our good Government provides for the good of
its subjects - the view of the subjects to make
known to the representative of the subjects - that
the representative may make known in his turn
the grievances or the well being of the people repre-
sented - that their grievances may be if possible
be redressed - that their well being may be

Informed and encouraged by the proper Authority.

Y^r Rev^d & Dear Comrades are our representatives
of these United States - and as such I
ask You for favour - Oppose my Petition
from my Honour Father regarding Smoking
or the use of Tobacco lately prohibited as
You are well aware in our last General As-
sembly. I will suppose to You Rev^d Comrades
in simplicity; the reason I have back through
Your kind medium for such a favour. -
When Young I was accustomed off & on to to-
bacco - and of course - I feel the harm of it
now considerably. I have had much venereal
is more or less beneficial for them. You are like-
wise well aware Yourself Rev^d & dear Comrades
that the practice here among the clergy for the
use of Tobacco is almost universal - and
increasing among them so frequently - are
thrown by this means into the very occasions
which I can assure You cannot be easily

dispensed with - Add to this Rev Sir -
 the fatiguing labours of the Missionary life
 in our limited states - which we must con-
 siderably ask for some little more or less
 - so smoking certainly is - and in a country
 & climate where so far as to be got -
 And Revd Comptre I sincerely am that
 smoking when not used to excess is harmless
 & healthful. In simplicity I have said be-
 fore you these reasons - May Revd Comptre
 that in your kindness & in the good wish
 you have for me your Comptre you may
 lay them before our Com? Factor. -
 I need hardly tell you - that I am prepared
 to abide by whatever restrictions - Our Govt
 Com? Factor desires to make regarding
 the permission simply asked - and while
 I await a reply to what I earnestly ask
 through your intercession -

allow me to recommend myself to your
 prayers remaining - your very

Affectionate

believe

W^m Ashaw Esq. B. -

App. 21 & avril
 On le renvoie au
 Citoyen a qui l'on
 écrit.

SIMONIN

Journal des Sœurs, Ecclésiastique de la P. Rois 1834

Monsieur

Nous avons différé quelque temps de vous écrire, dans l'attente de pouvoir vous donner quelque chose de positif par le soins de notre Mission; mais des retards imprévus nous ont détournés jusqu'à ce moment et nous retiennent encore en suspens. Pour ce qui nous concerne personnellement, notre voyage a été jusqu'à présent fort satisfaisant, grâce à Dieu, les chemins sont bien battus et les habitations assez rapprochées les uns des autres. Seulement les premiers jours ont été chauds, brûlants. A Ipswich, le peuple témoigna quelque envie de nous entendre, M. L. donna une instruction de deux heures, devant un concours de personnes assez nombreux. Il parla de l'incarnation de l'Eglise, de son Unité, donna une idée de son culte, et de quelques uns de ses préceptes, il y eut la plusieurs grâces, on paraît satisfait. Outre la famille de M. Brown, nous découvrimos deux ou trois catholiques abandonnés, un jeune entre autres à qui son mari ne permettait de faire aucun acte de religion. Déjà auparavant la curiosité d'un de nos hôtes, nous avait contraints en quelque manière, de nous faire connaître à lui pour qui nous étions. Il était juge de l'endroit où nous nous faire marier à toute force, au moins encore, nous marier lui-même, s'il le voulait. Il avait les grands yeux en apprenant que nous étions des Prêtres Catholiques Romains, nous regarda de plus près, car il avait d'étranges idées sur notre compte. Mais son étonnement sembla au comble, lorsque nous lui eûmes expliqué quelques uns de nos dogmes, jusqu'à ce qu'il se reconstruisit les idées étendant en regard avec les autres sur plusieurs points. Quoi, nous disait-il, vous n'êtes donc pas tels qu'on vous représente? On m'avait assuré que vous n'étiez rien moins que des idolâtres et des païens qui ne croyez pas en Dieu. Il désira assister à notre prière du soir, nous lui lûmes un Catechisme, afin qu'il put s'instruire dans la vraie foi de Dieu lui en inspirait le désir. Puissent ces faibles semences porter leurs fruits dans leur terre! Ce fut le quatorze du mois d'Août que nous arrivâmes à l'établissement de Monsieur Auguste Chouteau, tout à propos pour être à même d'celebrer la glorieuse Assomption de Marie. Nous offrîmes les saints Mystères et nous eûmes de notre mission sous la protection de l'auguste Vierge de Dieu. Monsieur le Major Chouteau agent

D'indianisme de la nation Osage) le transmet avec son frère. Notre intention étoit de nous en aller, que le
 nous l'ayons pour prendre les informations dont nous avions besoin. Monsieur Chouteau de sa part
 nous pour le vingt cinq du mois au fort, dont ils sont éloignés de quarante cinq mil à peu près. Ce fut de
 leur voyage étoit de prendre un paiement de la nation Osage, en conséquence d'arrangements pris avec le
 gouvernement américain pour la cession de leurs terres. Enfin, la majeure partie de la Nation avoit un
 rendez-vous à l'établissement; et nous sembla qu'il nous seroit étoit favorable pour voir une nation à laquelle on
 cherchoit beaucoup à nous intéresser. Ces quelques jours que nous avions résolu d'attendre nous ont porté, pour des
 raisons de par d'autres, jusqu'à la fin du mois de la saison, plus que jamais, rendant les premières importations
 la même compare de la famille. M. Brando lui-même fut atteint d'une indigestion qui lui causa des douleurs
 continues, mais, fort heureusement, de peu de durée. Tout ce que nous pûmes faire devant ce temps là, fut
 d'instruire un peu, et de baptiser les enfants de Monsieur Chouteau. Cependant les Osages sont arrivés, en
 certains à peu près, et ont pleinement justifié à nos yeux tout ce qu'on nous en avoit rapporté. Nous en parlons
 plus spécialement par ce que le tout est surtout que l'on a à cœur de confier à nos soins, la tête d'autres
 têtes, la nation qui nous rendra toutes les autres. Ils sont hauts de taille et bien faits. Ils se contentent de la même
 à leur vie sur le monde, comme un espèce d'aigle qui retourne en arrière son regard en fait, orgueilleux, avec
 fierté; et leur port même, noble même, n'a rien de commun avec l'air commun de quelques autres nations que
 nous avons eu occasion de voir. Or, nous a appris que leur langage étoit fort bon, et qu'ils étoient à apprendre.
 Ils ont pour le couvrir la bristole, espèce de long bar, et le bragaï, ou couverture autour des reins sur quoi ils
 vident une couverture de laine. Les femmes sont plus décentes. A dix ans d'aujourd'hui ils se connaissent
 pas l'usage des liqueurs enivrantes; principalement ils boivent et jouent comme toutes les autres nations qu'ils
 avoisinent. Ils ont plusieurs femmes, sans paraître être des esclaves dans leurs envers. Il a été dit avec étonnement
 que toute l'éducation des Osages consistait à voler, à bien manger et à mieux faire. Nous savons par expérience
 qu'ils sont tous voleurs. Nous le rapportons de vol, ils sont gendres de réputation parmi des peuples, qui, depuis bien
 les apparens, sont peu délicats sur ce point. Pour l'éducation, il semble qu'ils se fassent un point de gloire. Montant
 religion. Ils adorent Wakanda, le maître de la vie et peinant une révélation singulière à la Pierre Assise. Ils
 se préparent à la guerre ou à la chasse par des jeûnes sévères. L'air est une autre chose qui est de même. Les jours
 entiers sans prendre pas même une goutte d'eau. ^{Il y a peu de jours que cela se fait.} M. Brando, l'air faisoit de la pluie la vie même
 comme! Nous avions intention qu'il Monsieur Chouteau de nous procurer les moyens d'avoir une entrevue
 avec les quatre chefs de la Nation. Et primo abord nous nous occupons d'une chose à laquelle nous nous étions
 attendus. Les dispositions des Nations, sans le rapport de leur éducation, se sont bien changées depuis quelques
 années. Les différentes peuplades de l'Ouest ont tous pour la plupart des Missionnaires du gouvernement, et nous
 ne croyons pas aller trop loin, en disant qu'ils ont été élevés pour la plupart. De là de l'indigestion et de la
 froideur en eux. Quelques peuples plus autres, sont restés à leur place, et ont leurs terres. Ils peinent - nous pas

que cette indisposition des nôtres laisse tourner au triomphe de la religion qui a des promesses d'en haut &
 Qu'on ne peut s'attendre à être facilement. Toutefois les Ojéges ne se laissent point montrer fort difficiles à nous au sujet
 notre demande. Ils ont permis l'ouvrage de leur enfant à notre école. Sait que nous nous établissons chez eux, mais
 que nous dormions la préférence à quelques uns de leurs voisins. De l'avis de tous ceux qui ont quelque commerce avec
 cette nation et avec qui nous en avons conféré à divers hazards trop peu de tenter une éducation d'un milieu d'esp.
 leurages et turbulents comme ils sont, et craint de révéler à commettre des injures et des traîtrises de tout d'un
 peut être d'utiliser des dépenses exorbitantes pour un établissement prochain. Un expédient a été la présente.
 Pris du territoire de la nation Ojége et le pays des Ojapawes et Ashkendas, formeront une peuplade de cinq ou
 six cents individus. Ils sont paisibles, aimant la tranquillité et vivent en bonne relation avec les autres nations
 celle des Ojéges, en particulier, qui chassent souvent sur leurs terres. Autour d'eux, dans un cercle d'environ
 dix milles, ou quinze milles au plus, sont les Ojéges, plusieurs familles des Maconnes et une partie de la nation
 des Ojéges; le tout formant une population de douze à quinze cents individus. Parmi les autres qui
 se présentent à notre esprit pour nous porter à choisir le pays des Ashkendas de préférence à celui des autres est que
 les principaux sont: qu'en avoir à proximité des Ojéges qui nous servent d'interprètes et d'aider à nous en servir
 et qu'ainsi on pourrait leur être utile sans avoir rien à en appréhender de plus la langue des de l'Amérique
 d'apprentis de l'école qu'ils se comprennent parfaitement entre eux, sans avoir besoin d'interprètes; et un, il y en a
 ont comme les Prêtres Catholiques et proposent une haute éducation pour eux, les Maconnes de l'école de
 le souvenir des Barons et de St. Germain; on pourrait en pas convenir par eux et le mettre en œuvre
 un grand plus tard? Mais en jugerez. Nous sommes à plus de deux cents milles de St. Louis et à quelques milles
 seulement des Etats-Unis. Pour trois jours que nous sommes en un traitant Américain, attendent d'un moment à l'autre
 le venir chef de la nation qui est à la recherche d'un cheval; nous voudrions lui parler à tout prix, afin de nous assurer
 de son consentement. C'est une nation qui se plaint le plus fortement. Il y a cinq ou six ans qu'ils furent
 l'absence d'ouvrage quelques uns de leurs enfants dans une institution du Kentucky; ils n'en ont reçu aucun retour
 et l'absence de nouvelles des parents de l'envoyer leurs enfants ont été infructueuses jusqu'à ce jour. On nous
 de l'absence fait appréhender de cette indisposition de leur part pour le moment. On disposera d'après son bon
 vouloir. La Nation des Ojéges et celle des Ashkendas se trouvent l'un avec l'autre à présent.

Il faut bien nous dire, Monsieur, à la gloire de notre sainte religion, que notre caractère des Ojéges nous a attiré la part des principaux Officiers de la garnison de Fort Gibson, un officier qui a été parti jusqu'à l'Amérique
 M. le Col. Dillard qui tient sous ses ordres les Officiers a retenu absolument d'entrer en compte avec nous, quelques nous
 ussions été quatre jours à son hôtel. M. le Colonel Whiteley, commandant on l'absence du Général, nous a mis à
 différentes reprises; la femme d'un Français, et catholique ainsi que la famille; quant au Colonel, il est d'origine
 C'est tout. Le peu de jours que nous avons passés à la garnison ont été employés à visiter dans la foi les parents
 Irlandais qui font partie de la nation. Ils ne sont pas moins de deux cents catholiques, à ce qu'ils nous ont assuré. Ils
 étaient les hauts cris. Nous célébrons les saints mystères dans une de leurs cabanes de l'agrement des Officiers supérieurs

Territoire de Seneca

ixottation de St. Croix, 1837

M. M. Jean Brandt. off

J. M. Simonin

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La Roche Guyon
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M^r Brands a entendu quelques confessions, fait deux baptêmes et a célébré un mariage. Ces pauvres gens aiment bien d'être sans garder plus long-temps et je crois qu'il y aurait en quelque lieu à faire parmi eux.

Mais nous avons vu dit des Chérokees, Creeks, Seminols de parer qu'il n'est pas qu'il faille attendre beaucoup d'eux pour le moment. Les Chérokees sont les plus avancés dans la civilisation, leurs mœurs se rapprochent beaucoup de celles des Américains quand ils parlent généralement la langue. Malgré ces rapports qui nous ont été faits, il y a bien cinq cents blancs établis parmi eux. Si quelque chose leur est d'un avantage pour leur approvisionnement des terres, ils sont l'un de leur avoir comme l'exemple des hommes mécontents. Ils ont des missionnaires, mais il ne semble pas qu'ils jouissent d'une grande considération. Les principaux chefs eux-mêmes préfèrent garder leurs enfants chez eux plutôt que de les tenir à l'école. D'après toutes les apparences, il est peu probable qu'ils soient disposés à accorder des terres pour un nouvel établissement de missionnaires, toutefois on parvient à faire des missions.

Quant aux Creeks, Seminols, ils sont très divisés entre eux sur plusieurs points importants. Il y a beaucoup à présager qu'ils ne resteront pas sur les terres qui leur ont été données par le gouvernement; ils font même le vouloir le retirer au Texas. D'ailleurs, leur Agent, homme important, est fortement décidé de ne laisser aucun missionnaire mettre le pied sur leur territoire; il a même résisté auventement aux sollicitations du gouvernement. Mais s'il nous paraît pas que qu'il faut à propos de prendre des dispositions à notre égard; il pourrait néanmoins fort bien arriver qu'il nous

est favorable, puisqu'il s'agit de la nation des Chiriquis, qui est un Lédit de la vieille armée Péruvienne et
succèsivement membre du trône, Gouverneur de la Castille, est d'avis que les missions chez les Indiens appartiennent
de droit aux Catholiques, et qu'aucunlement peuvent se prêter aux autres. Il est épiscopat.

Si par vous nous venons de la Chef des Arkansas, nous prendrions notre direction vers le pays des Choctaws, qui sont à peu près à 120 miles d'ici. On en compte six mille environ. Nous aurons très peu de dangers sur ce; seulement on nous dit qu'il y en a parmi eux qui entendent et parlent l'anglais & française; ils sont probablement clair semés. Peut-être y rencontrerons nous enfin Monsieur le Surintendant Armstrong, qu'il nous sera impossible de trouver jusqu'à présent. Il est absent pour cette raison, et nous sommes informés à la garnison où il était attendu, qu'il était retenu chez lui par la fièvre. Il semble qu'il vienne à l'ordre des gens dans les environs. Mais, le Dieu le veut, nous reprendrons notre route par l'état de l'Arkansas, pour regagner la bienheureuse résidence de Marie.

Prions pour nous. Ne nous point affranger d'un nous auompagne dans les caresses où nous nous sommes engagés
par obéissance et pour la sainte gloire. Nous ~~ne~~ demandons en esprit d'humilité votre Bénédiction.

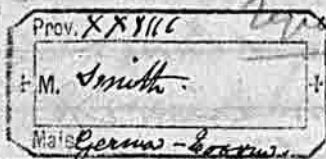
Vos très-humbles et très-dévotés enfants on X^o

Jean Brondy ind. p. d. l'ém.
J.M. MURMIND ind. p. m.

SMITH THOS.
vis.

Cape Girardeau

Missouri

July 14th / 80

Très Honore Père

Votre benediction s'il vous
plait.

J'ai reçu votre lettre du 24 juin
En relation aux institutions ou honnaires
des Messes. il est d'usage chez nous
et permis avec l'approbation de le Sup.
Gen. M. Pline de bonne mémoire - de per-
mettre les confères deux dollars ou
dix francs par mois. Mais les
Maison ne les chargent pas pour
les institutions. Quelques uns n'ont
pas e.g. les séminaires et quelques pau-
vres paroisies; et généralement les
autres sont très pauvres. Ma opinion
est que cette concession aux Confères

est pour eux d'avantage très
dangereuse. Ma expérience montre que
il engendrerait un esprit avare, une
un amour de monnaie, et l'usage de
les dépenses sans permission et
le désir de l'accumuler. Les vieux
Compagnons avec peut-être exception de
deux, ne se troublent pas de
cette conversion. Mais les jeunes,
Co., frères sans l'enseignement de
M. Hennessey - un Compagnon d'indie
exemplaire "par exemple" veulent
avoir dix dollars ou cinquante
francs par mois. parce que on dit
que les Compagnons en France ont
dix intentions. Les Compagnons en France
ont dix francs pour dix intentions
ergo nos hommes de pureté veulent
dix Dollars pour dix intentions.
Quoique comme je crois il a été décidé
par notre vénérable Père de ce soir,
je pense que il serait très utile si
vous votre pied mettez fermement

sur cette abus. Et si vous revogueriez
tous les permissions, donnez par
votre Jode casseur. M. Hennessy
"ut fertur" - garde tout les honneuris de
Messes sous son permission. Vrais au
fuisse. Pas de mespote. Il a de sa pro-
pre Monie. Mille de dollars plusieurs.

Je crois que vos étudiants sont assez
bien formés aux études ecclésiastiques.
L'étude de Philologie dure un an
et de Théologie de trois années.

S'il est possible trouvez quelque
place pour M. Phinchoff. Sa vie
ici dans cette ville non seulement serait
inutile mais bien d'ailleurs. Son don-
neur s'y était avant son départ de cet
Maison fut le premier burglariser la cham-
bre de procureur. et de la entrer par des-
sus le porte et voler quelques monie que
il avait en dépôt avec le procureur.
et après cela de donner les signes de
vrai ivrogne. Il eut le malin avec
son usage de jurer par Ombres.
Pas de Sup. Com. tira de lui rien -

Donnez s'il vous plaît Très Honorable
 Père de permissions de dispenser au
 Communiter les Missionnaires de l'obligation
 de reciter l'office Divin dans la
 Missions. Dans le livre des privilèges
 Votre permission est nécessaire.

Vous plaît-il donner la dispensation
 pour nous tout, quand nous serons
 occupés dans les Missions. Il est pres-
 que intolérable dans ce pays de reciter
 tout l'office dans la Missions. Les
 Confesseurs sans interruption tout
 le jour. à l'exception hors de matin jusqu'à
 dix heures de nuit avec peu d'omission.
 Actuellement nous n'avons de temps
 de tout le monde entendu, dans le
 temps que la Missions dure.

Je donnerais sans malice de
 mes visites aux Barrens et au
 Cap Marsa au Cap Garden en peu
 de jours. Votre humble et dévoué Servant
 Thomas J. Smith Dec 1852

VERRINA

Nouvelle-Orleans le 6. Juin 182.

^{M. Mother.}
 Très chère Mère & c.

^{quelques sup. J. de la semaine}
 Votre benediction si vous étiez

Se profite du départ de notre vénérable Archevêque pour vous donner quelques nouvelles de vos enfants de la Nouvelle-Orleans, et je m'acquiesce de ce devoir d'autant plus volontiers que depuis un an il nous est impossible de communiquer avec notre cher Surtout à cause de la guerre civile. En ce moment nous en ressentons les effets plus que j'en avais. Nous sommes atteints à bon d'effraies. Il semble que les éléments eux-mêmes soient contre nous, puisqu'il pleut depuis deux semaines à un tel point que nous sommes obligés de faire usage d'un esquif improvisé par le bon frère Michel pour aller dire la Messe chez nos Chers. Ce n'est qu'hier qu'on fut fermer la crevasse qui nous menaçait d'être dans l'eau pendant deux mois. Tout vous porte à croire que la fièvre jaune, ou quelque autre maladie fatale viendra bien-

tot le jour aux autres misères pour nous ac-
 cabler d'avantage. Mais nous avons raison de
 penser que le bon Dieu, loin de nous avoir
 abandonné, a des desseins de miséricorde sur
 nous jusqu'à ce qu'il n'épargne pas la verge à
 notre égard. Les troubles politiques ont ren-
 versé bien de projets. Pour réaliser plus de
 bien parmi les jeunes personnes, nous pensions
 que l'école de nos Sœurs devrait être dans
 le centre de la Paroisse, et plus près de
 l'Eglise. A cet effet nous avons déjà com-
 mencé à bâtir une maison en briques d'après
 le plan de leur maison de Mount Hope,
 lorsque les circonstances nous ont obligés à sus-
 pendre les travaux. J'espère cependant que
 nous pourrions les reprendre. Cette
 maison est destinée à être une Académie qui
 mettra nos Sœurs en état de contenir une
 école pour les pauvres filles, et un certain nom-
 bre d'orphelins. L'école des frères des écoles
 chrétiennes, qui sont dans la Paroisse depuis
 deux ans, font aussi un grand bien parmi
 les garçons. Un grand nombre de paroissiens
 continue à faire usage de la fréquentation

des sacrements, se rappelant encore des vertés que
notre Compère M^r Delors, dont nous regrettons
toujours la déparation, nous a fait goûter. Cette
Paroisse prend de tels dévotements que
dans quelques années il faudra plusieurs Prêtres
pour la desservir convenablement. Au Limi:
mais nous n'avons que deux Séminaristes en
ce moment, mais notre bon Archevêque se
propose de lui donner un nouvel élève, et
c'est peut-être la principale raison qui lui
fait entreprendre ce voyage en Europe. Nous
avons aussi au Séminaire un Novice qui aspire
à la Prêtrise. Vous serez peut-être étonné
d'entendre qu'il est ici au lieu d'être à No:
vicat. En voici, très-honorable Père, la raison.
Après avoir bien réfléchi et prié pour con:
naître l'état auquel Dieu l'appelait, il de:
manda à Monseigneur la permission de se
faire Religieux, et Monseigneur la lui accorda.
Dans les circonstances où nous nous trouvons,
ne pouvant me permettre de le faire voya:
ger, et ne pouvant communiquer avec
notre Supérieur, j'ai agi sur interprétation.
Je l'ai admis au Novicat et j'en fais

part au Maître des Novices. C'est un
jeune homme de Marseille, dont le
nom est Mendine. Comme il a fait des
études philosophiques et théologiques
chez nous, nous le connaissons d'ancienne
date, et je vous assure, Très-honorable Père,
qu'il a toujours été pour nous un grand
sujet d'édification soit en qualité de
simple Séminariste, soit en qualité de
Novice. Il me lui fait que les vœux pour
être ordonné Prêtre. Le jour de St. Vincent
il y aura un an qu'il a commencé son So-
crat. Ayez la bonté de faire savoir à
notre cher Directeur de la Noviciat qu'il
fait ici compte, ou bien de, après que
la paix sera rétablie dans le pays, il
devra le recommencer. Nos Compagnons des
deux maisons de la Nouvelle-Orléans joi-
sissent en ce moment d'une bonne santé,
ils s'occupent du ministère selon l'esprit
de notre Congrégation. Les Règles y
sont assez bien observées, mais ce dont

nous devons spécialement remercier le bon Dieu,
 c'est que la paix et l'union règnent parmi
 nous. Maintenant, très-honorable Père, je dois
 vous faire l'aveu d'une bêtise que j'ai
 fait l'année dernière. Monseigneur en
 prenant possession de son Siège Archie-
 vesque voulut s'entourer d'un con-
 seil composé du Provincial des Prêtres,
 du Supérieur des Rédemptoristes, du Su-
 périeur du Séminaire, et de quelques
 Prêtres séculiers. Me trouvant membre
 de ce conseil en qualité de Supérieur
 du Séminaire, je ne fis aucune opposi-
 tion. Ce n'est qu'en lisant les Décrets
 des Assemblées Générales pendant la Re-
 traite que je me suis aperçu de ma
 bêtise. Je voulais en parler à Monsei-
 gneur, puis j'ai pensé qu'il serait mieux
 d'en faire part avant au Pénitencier à la
 première occasion qui se présenterait.
 Mais à présent qu'il m'est donné
 de puiser à la source, c'est entre Vos
 mains que je mets cette affaire. Je
 veut d'avance tout ce que vous voudrez.

Ayez la bonté, très-honorable Père, de présenter mes respects à M^r & M^{lle} Stuchin, ainsi qu'à tous les Confrères de la Maison Mère; veuillez aussi me recommander à leur prières, et me croire toujours

Votre tout dévoué Fils
 G. Perrina F. F. C. M.

St. Vincent's College

Cape Girardeau Mo.

October the 4th / 69

Gratia D. n. f. b. sit semper virtutum

Tris. honoré Père

Notre bon Vinteur à son retour de la Calé-
fonnie m'a fait souvenir de mon devoir
de vous écrire de temps en temps selon
qu'il est prescrit par nos saintes Règles.
J'avoue que j'ai manqué grossièrement
à cet égard. Mais je dois avouer en même
temps que si j'avais le bonheur de voir
au moins une fois dans ma vie notre
maison chère, dont j'ai tant entendu
parler, et d'échanger vs ad vs quelques
mots avec vous qui êtes mon Père, je
n'exprimerai pas la même difficulté à
vous écrire: Voilà déjà 28 ans que je suis
dans ce pays, et personne ne m'a encore
dit, mon enfant, va rachaffer ton cœur
à s'arrêter ou repose le corps de notre
Bienheureux Père St. Vincent. Je sais
bien que si je vous avais demandé la

permission de faire ce voyage, vous m'en
l'avez accordée avec plaisir. Mais com-
ment faire cette demande puisque je
n'ai pas de quoi faire la dépense?
J'ai l'habitude de ne recevoir aucun
honorarium des Messrs puisque le maître
m'a toujours fourni de tout ce dont j'ai
besoin, même du tabac pour fumer. Ain-
si je n'ai rien.

Maintenant pour ce qui regarde notre
College du Cape Girardeau je vous dirai
en peu de mots ce nous en sommes.

Il y a déjà un an que M^r Ryan m'a
envoyé dans cette institution en qualité
de Président. Je ne me croyais pas ca-
pable de pouvoir porter un si lourd
fardeau, mais il a fallu obéir. Et mon ar-
rivée j'ai trouvé le College endetté de
quarante mille piastres. L'école marchait
à grands pas en décadence. Mon premier
soin a été de faire en sorte que
la Communauté vive en parfaite har-
monie, de traiter les Ecclésiastiques de manière

à ce qu'ils se trouvent heureux chez
 nous. Avec la grâce de Dieu la paix et
 la bonne ^{entente} ont régné dans le Collège pen-
 dant le cours de toute l'année scholas-
 tique, et j'ai raison de croire que le
 bon Dieu a été aimé et servi, car nos
 Elèves ont été très-édifiants, s'approchant
 des Sacraments au moins deux fois par
 mois. Grâce à cette bonne entente, à l'in-
 tercession de St. Joseph, et de notre Saint
 Fondateur St. Vincent, et ayant pris les
 mesures nécessaires, notre Ecole a doublée
 cette année. Nous avons en ce moment
 109 Pensionnaires dont 19 portent la
 soutane. Nous avons aussi 13 écoliers ex-
 ternes. Le Collège est florissant, et cependant
 nous en attendons d'autres. Ce qui me cause
 le plus de plaisir c'est de voir
 qu'ils sont tous des bons enfants. C'est
 un vrai plaisir d'être parmi eux. Les
 petits font beaucoup de tapage, ils
 parlent bien à la fois, mais les
 grands sont très-solides. Je crois qu'une

fois dans le monde et seront d'excellents
 chrétiens, et le souvenir de St. Vincent
 Colley, sera un souvenir doux à leur cœur.
 À l'égard des affaires temporelles je dois
 vous dire, très-honorable Père, que malgré
 le petit nombre d'étudiants, l'année
 dernière nous avons payé plus de dix
 mille piastres outre les intérêts qui
 se montaient à deux mille piastres.
 En ce moment nous ne devons rien
 excepté quelques fractions, qu'à la
 Province, et j'espère que dans le cou-
 rant de cette année votre dette sera
 diminuée proche de moitié. Après que la
 dette sera parfaitement éteinte, nous
 bâtiront avec votre permission l'autre
 aile qui est d'une nécessité absolue.
 Voilà en peu de mots ce que nous en
 sommes pour ce qui regarde cette ins-
 titution.

Maintenant, très-honorable Père, j'ai deux
 demandes à vous faire. Premièrement, de
 faire gronder par la Mère ma sœur,

qui est Sœur de Charte, car depuis
 plus de seize ans je n'ai ^{pas} reçu un
 seul mot d'elle, et en 28 ans elle ne
 m'écrit que deux ou trois fois. Je ne
 sais où elle se trouve, et j'ignore
 même le nom qu'on lui donne
 en faisant ses vœux. Cependant j'
 l'examine jusqu'à ce que je sache de la
 même trempe. Secondement, je voudrais
 que les Enfants de Marie de l'Académie
 St Vincent, dirigés par les Sœurs de
 Lorette, qui se trouvent près du Collège,
 soient affiliés avec celle de France
 afin qu'elle puisse gagner la sa-
 lubrité. Elle le désire ardemment.

Enfin, très-honorable Père, acceptez les
 sentiments de soumission et du plus
 profond respect de

Votre enfant tout dévoué

H. Verrina J. S. C. M.

FINE